

Senate Resolution 462

By: Senators Stone of the 23rd, Burke of the 11th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Jones of the 25th, Watson of the 1st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to amend the Controlled Substances Act of 1970
2 so as to authorize the study of medical marijuana; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, one of the areas in which states have traditionally held the greatest authority is
4 in the exercise of their police powers to determine appropriate law enforcement policies
5 reflective of local values and needs; and

6 WHEREAS, states are increasingly serving as laboratories for democracy by adopting a
7 variety of policies on marijuana for medical and adults' use; and

8 WHEREAS, it is in the national interest to promote uniformity and consistency in the
9 medical use of marijuana among the states; and

10 WHEREAS, federal intervention in medical marijuana and marijuana regulation results in
11 cash-only business and derails planned regulation, impeding states' ability to protect public
12 health and public safety; and

13 WHEREAS, federal intervention in medical marijuana has created a situation wherein
14 law-abiding Georgia citizens and their families, in order to treat themselves and their children
15 with debilitating illnesses, have become medical refugees, separating families and causing
16 additional emotional, physical, and financial hardships; and

17 WHEREAS, we, as a nation, proclaiming to care about family and freedom, have exiled
18 families from their native states to seek life-saving medical alternatives; and

19 WHEREAS, nearly half of the states and the District of Columbia allow the medical use of
20 marijuana; and

21 WHEREAS, more than ten additional states have enacted measures that allow patients
22 suffering from intractable epilepsy to use strains of marijuana that have low concentrations
23 of THC; and

24 WHEREAS, the possibility of federal intervention has impeded the passage of proposed
25 legislation and the implementation of passed legislation to allow low-THC strains of
26 marijuana for children suffering from intractable epilepsy; and

27 WHEREAS, the United States Congress adopted an amendment to H.R. 4660, the
28 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2015, that
29 prohibits the federal government from using its funds to prevent states from implementing
30 their own state laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical
31 marijuana; and

32 WHEREAS, there is expanding evidence that marijuana has therapeutic use in treatment of
33 certain debilitating illnesses, hence there is an urgent need for the facilitation of clinical
34 research and the development of cannabinoid-based medicines and an urgent and timely need
35 for the removal of marijuana's status as a Schedule I substance.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
37 urge the Congress of the United States to amend the Controlled Substances Act of 1970 so
38 as to remove marijuana as a Schedule I controlled substance.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body urge the Congress of the
40 United States to authorize the study of medical marijuana.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the President of the
43 United States, the United States Attorney General, and each member of the Georgia
44 congressional delegation.