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S.R. NO. 209

MAR 1 2 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PURSUE IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT RELIEF FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR THE STATE AUTHORIZED USE OF CANNABIS IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has authorized the use of cannabis, and the United States Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have never challenged the constitutionality of such use; and

WHEREAS, citizens using cannabis for authorized purposes under Hawaii Revised Statutes at part IX, chapter 329, are exempt from the criminal penalties associated with the illegal use of cannabis as a state Schedule I controlled substance; and

WHEREAS, the international drug treaties to which the United States is signatory, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, both contain exemptions for the authorized use of controlled substances under domestic law; and

WHEREAS, administrative procedures already exist for obtaining federal exemptions for the state authorized use of a controlled substance; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
that the Governor is hereby requested to submit to the
Administrator of the United States Department of Justice, Drug
Enforcement Administration, Diversion Control Division, an
application for immediate relief pursuant to title 21 Code of
Federal Regulations section 1307.03 and a petition for permanent
relief pursuant to title 21 Code of Federal Regulations section
1308.43, stating that part IX of chapter 329, Hawaii Revised
Statutes, and chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, create an
exemption from federal drug laws and do not create any positive
conflict pursuant to title 21 United States Code Annotated
section 903; and that the federal scheduling of marijuana does
not apply to the state authorized use of cannabis; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Office of the Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Health, Department of Public Safety, Department of Transportation, Department of Education, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and President of the University of Hawaii System.

OFFERED BY: