
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE EFFECTS
ON STATES OF STATE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS FOR ADULT
RECREATIONAL USE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii and twenty-seven other states, the District
2 of Columbia, and the United States territories of Guam and
3 Puerto Rico have legalized the use of medical cannabis for the
4 treatment of certain qualifying medical conditions; and
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6 WHEREAS, the states of Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine,
7 Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington have approved the
8 legalization of adult recreational cannabis; and
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10 WHEREAS, the states that have legalized the adult
11 recreational use of cannabis generated approximately
12 \$655,000,000 in combined state tax revenue in 2017; and
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14 WHEREAS, the State's main economic engine is tourism, and
15 visitor numbers continue to increase year-over-year with a
16 record-breaking 8,900,000 visitors to Hawaii in 2016; and
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18 WHEREAS, visitors from states with legal adult recreational
19 cannabis account for approximately one-third of the total annual
20 visitors to Hawaii; and
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22 WHEREAS, the State has a need for additional tax revenue
23 for a number of unfunded and underfunded mandates and
24 priorities, as well as for new investments and enterprise; now,
25 therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is urged to
30 convene a task force to study the effects on states of state
31 legalization of cannabis for adult recreational use of cannabis;
32 and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to include the following members or each member's respective designee:

- (1) Lieutenant Governor;
- (2) Director of Health;
- (3) Director of Taxation;
- (4) Director of Public Safety;
- (5) Mayors of the City and County of Honolulu and Counties of Maui, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i;
- (6) Administrator of the Honolulu Liquor Commission;
- (7) Executive Director of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i; and
- (8) Director of Hawaii Citizens for Legal Cannabis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, with guidance and administrative support from the Legislative Reference Bureau, is requested to study:

- (1) The advantages and disadvantages of state legalization of cannabis;
- (2) Tax revenues projected and realized as a result of state legalization of cannabis;
- (3) Impacts on state judicial and correctional systems and associated costs; and
- (4) The financial and enforcement impacts on other states that have not legalized the adult recreational use of cannabis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force and Legislative Reference Bureau may consult with any public or private entity

1 that may be of assistance, and any public entity of the State is
2 requested to assist the task force by providing requested
3 information or other assistance deemed relevant to the study;
4 and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
7 report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
8 legislation and any recommendations regarding the implementation
9 of adult recreational cannabis policies in the State, to this
10 body no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
11 Regular Session of 2019; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Lieutenant
15 Governor; Director of Health; Director of Taxation; Director of
16 Public Safety; Mayors of the City and County of Honolulu and
17 Counties of Maui, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i; Administrator of the
18 Honolulu Liquor Commission; Executive Director of the Drug
19 Policy Forum of Hawai'i; and Director of Hawaii Citizens for
20 Legal Cannabis.

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