

Presented by: Assemblymembers  
Champion and Poor  
Introduced: 05/18/87  
Drafted by: B.J.B.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1240

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION MAKING THE USE OR POSSESSION OF ANY AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA ILLEGAL.

WHEREAS, under current state law, adults may possess up to four ounces of marijuana for their personal use in the home, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska statutes pertaining to the possession of marijuana for personal use are not in conformity with the laws of other states or the federal government on the subject, and

WHEREAS, the use of marijuana has been found to be detrimental to the health, welfare, and safety of all people, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 32, which would make the use or possession of any amount of marijuana illegal, has been introduced in the state legislature, and

WHEREAS, the use of even small amounts of marijuana by adults in the home subjects children present to a substantial health hazard, and

WHEREAS, a study by the office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse for the State of Alaska has found that the level of experimentation with and use of marijuana among Alaskan youth twelve to seventeen years of age is twice the national average, and that 60 percent of senior high school students in Alaska use marijuana up to three times a month, and

WHEREAS, the present legal status under Alaska law of the possession of marijuana for personal use in the home may be viewed as a public expression of approval of the use of marijuana, sends a message to our youth that the use of marijuana is acceptable adult behavior, contributes to the availability of marijuana to our youth, and contributes to

disrespect for federal laws making possession of marijuana a crime, and

WHEREAS, marijuana is considered a "gateway drug" and its use may lead users to seek stronger drugs, and

WHEREAS, THC, the mind-altering ingredient in marijuana, remains in the body up to thirty days, being stored in the body's fat cells, and

WHEREAS, it has been found that the THC content of marijuana today may be ten times higher than it was ten years ago, significantly increasing the health risks associated with the use of marijuana, and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 1987, the Board of Education of the City and Borough of Juneau School District adopted Resolution 9-87 which finds that the use of marijuana by students poses a clear and present danger to the health and well-being of our children and threatens the educational mission of our schools, and urges the state legislature to enact legislation making the use or possession of any amount of marijuana illegal, and

WHEREAS, the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of the State of Alaska and City and Borough of Juneau is one of the most fundamental of all responsibilities of state and local government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. That the Assembly urges Governor Cowper and the Alaska State Legislature to enact legislation making the use or possession of any amount of marijuana illegal.

2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 18th day of May, 1987.

  
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Mayor

Attest:

  
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Clerk