**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO URGE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO WORK EXPEDITIOUSLY TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON THE USE OF CANNABIS TO TREAT MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND ILLNESSES.

Whereas, citizens across the country are using cannabis to treat a variety of medical conditions and illnesses, and it is becoming increasingly accessible, despite the dearth of scientific research that exists on its efficacy overall, and its efficacy as impacted by dosage amounts, drug interactions, drug composition, and drug side effects; and

Whereas, federal statutory and regulatory barriers have prevented thorough research on the use of cannabis to treat medical conditions and illnesses, and these barriers have undermined the ability of states to obtain clear, well-researched scientific evidence relevant to use of cannabis for medical purposes; and

Whereas, it is time for the federal government to recognize the serious public policy risks born from lack of medical, public health, and pharmaceutical research into cannabis and its use for medical purposes; and

Whereas, the federal government has a duty to protect its citizens by promoting research on the medicinal value, if any, of cannabis to treat a variety of medical conditions and illnesses; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the health and well‑being of all people and to propose statutory and regulatory actions to accomplish that end. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina hereby urges Congress to take immediate steps to promote and actively pursue scientific research and testing into the use of cannabis to treat medical conditions and illnesses by removing the federal statutory and regulatory barriers that prevent these scientific endeavors.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President and President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives and that copies of this resolution also be transmitted to the members of the United States Congress from this State.

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