

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRFAX TOWN COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 19, THE REGULATE, CONTROL AND TAX CANNABIS ACT OF 2010

WHEREAS, classification of marijuana as a controlled substance has spawned the growth of public corruption and criminal cartels that profit by the increased price caused by prohibition; and

WHEREAS, illegal growing operations on public land, such as the Marin Water District watershed, use toxic fertilizers and pesticides which degrade the environment and pose a risk of harm to recreational users; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 78,000 Californians were arrested in 2008 for marijuana related offenses; and

WHEREAS, The cost and time involved in investigating, prosecuting and incarcerating marijuana related offenses costs Californians hundreds of millions of dollars per year; and

WHEREAS, The law enforcement resources expended on marijuana enforcement can and should be better spent on crimes of violence and other threats to public welfare; and

WHEREAS, There has been an historic disproportionate percentage of minority residents arrested for marijuana offenses; and,

WHEREAS, Prohibition of the use and possession of marijuana has reduced respect for the law and law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, While not safe or recommended for youth, marijuana is statistically safer than prescription drugs and alcohol which combined cause tens of thousands of annual deaths through over use, drug interactions and intoxicated driving; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 19 will continue the prohibition of sales or provision to minors under the age of 21 and driving under the influence of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, Marijuana has been demonstrated to have beneficial effects for a wide variety of medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, Decriminalization will also permit the agricultural cultivation of hemp which is a low impact source of high quality fiber, oil and food; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 19 may generate hundreds of millions of dollars in tax revenues across the State of California in those communities that decide to permit legal, controlled sale; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 19 has been endorsed by a wide variety of individuals and groups including the Oakland City Council, the California NAACP, Service Employees International Union, the Green Party of California, Alameda Democratic Party, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Congressman George Miller, Former San Jose Police Chief Joseph McNamara, Former Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders, State Assembly Member Tom Ammiano, State Senator Mark Leno and current Humboldt County District Attorney Paul Gallegos;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax Town Council endorses and supports passage of Proposition 19, THE REGULATE, CONTROL AND TAX CANNABIS ACT OF 2010, on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Fairfax Town Council of the Town of Fairfax, County of Marin, State of California, held on the 6th day of October, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Lew Tremaine, Mayor

Attest:

Town Clerk