

A RESOLUTION OF THE SUBURBAN CITIES ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORT OF RECLASSIFYING CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE FROM A SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TO A SCHEDULE II

WHEREAS the voters of the State of Washington approved Initiative 692 in 1998, the stated purpose of which was to permit the use of marijuana for patients who had debilitating or terminal illnesses; and

WHEREAS possession of marijuana/cannabis remains unlawful under federal law, and marijuana/cannabis is currently classified as a Schedule I controlled substance, meaning that according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), it has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States and therefore may not be prescribed, administered, or dispensed for medical use; and

WHEREAS this conflict between state and federal law has placed the cities of King County in an untenable situation, and has created both public safety and land use regulation challenges for cities; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Medical Association and the Washington State Pharmacy and other institutions support reclassification of marijuana/cannabis; and

WHEREAS Governor Gregoire has filed a petition with the DEA seeking to initiate rulemaking proceedings to reclassify medical marijuana/cannabis as a Schedule II controlled substance, backed by substantiated peer-reviewed scientific evidence; and

WHEREAS reclassification of medical marijuana/cannabis would allow qualified patients to obtain medication through the traditional and safe method of physician prescribing and pharmacy dispensing; and

WHEREAS such a system would remove legal ambiguities, and remove substantial law enforcement and regulatory burdens from cities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Suburban Cities Association supports reclassification of marijuana/cannabis as a Schedule II drug under the Controlled Substances Act, and urges the DEA to initiate rulemaking proceedings to reclassify marijuana/cannabis.

Dated this 8th Day of March, 2012.

Denis Law, President, SCA Board of Directors

Mayor, City of Renton

On behalf of Suburban Cities Association