

## Resolution to Remove Cannabis from Schedule 1

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3 **WHEREAS** the voters and/or legislatures of the States of Alaska Colorado, Oregon and  
4 Washington have chosen to remove all criminal penalties for the recreational and  
5 medical use of cannabis (marijuana) by their citizens;

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7 **WHEREAS** the voters and legislators of twenty-one other States have decriminalized  
8 some form of medical marijuana use;

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10 **WHEREAS** we now know that the so-called War on Drugs was a cynical ploy by  
11 political operatives of the Nixon administration to justify increased surveillance of anti-  
12 war protesters and civil rights activists and to facilitate wholesale arrests of political  
13 opponents;

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15 **WHEREAS** for that reason alone cannabis (marijuana) was added to the list of Schedule  
16 1 narcotics in 1970, the criteria for which are:

- 17 1) that there be no currently accepted medical use of the drug in the United States,
- 18 2) that there be a high potential for abuse, and/or addiction, and
- 19 3) that there are no protocols for safe use of the drug under medical supervision;

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21 **WHEREAS** cannabis clearly does not meet the criteria of a dangerous drug as required  
22 by the Schedule 1 classification of the Controlled Substances Act;

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24 **WHEREAS** there are wide discrepancies in the way cannabis is treated in the laws of  
25 the various States, and in the sentences handed down to violators of those laws; and

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27 **WHEREAS** in States where cannabis is legal under Washington State Law, but remains  
28 illegal under Federal Law by virtue of it's listing as a Schedule 1 Narcotic, this creates  
29 conflicts for legitimate legal businesses and uncertainty for local law enforcement,  
30 banking officials and merchants;

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32 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Convention  
33 hereby petition the President, the Attorney General of the United States, and the  
34 Director of the Drug Enforcement Administration to remove cannabis and its associated  
35 products from Schedule 1 and to discontinue any further criminal actions against those  
36 involved in the possession, cultivation, processing, retail distribution, and/or medical  
37 or recreational use of cannabis; and

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39 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic  
40 Convention hereby petition the President, the Attorney General of the United States,  
41 and the Director of the Drug Enforcement Administration to fully pardon those who

42 were previously convicted of possession, cultivation, processing, retail distribution,  
43 and/or medical or recreational use of cannabis.

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46 Submitted by the Kitsap County Democrats.

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48 The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17,  
49 2016 meeting.

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51 The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18,  
52 2016.

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