

RESOLUTION

Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act Resolution

WHEREAS, the prohibition of marijuana is a failed policy that brands nonviolent New Yorkers as criminals; creates a vicious cycle that ruins lives and wastes taxpayer dollars; has caused a civil-rights disaster, with African American and Hispanic New Yorkers more than five times more likely to be arrested for pot possession than white New Yorkers, despite similar rates of marijuana use among both groups; and inhibits otherwise law-abiding New Yorkers' abilities to access housing, employment opportunities and other vital services;

WHEREAS, the prohibition of marijuana has been ineffective in reducing or curbing marijuana use;

WHEREAS, New York State Senate Bill S3040C (the "Bill") enacts the "marihuana regulation and taxation act," which seeks, among other things:

1. to amend the public health law, in relation to the description of marijuana, and the growing of and use of marijuana by persons twenty-one years of age or older;
2. to amend the civil practice law and rules, in relation to removing certain references to marijuana relating to forfeiture actions; to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to making technical changes regarding the definition of marijuana;
3. to amend the penal law, in relation to the qualification of certain offenses involving marijuana and to exempt certain persons from prosecution for the use, consumption, display, production or distribution of marijuana;
4. to amend the alcoholic beverage control law, in relation to providing for the licensure of persons authorized to produce, process and sell marijuana;
5. to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York state marijuana revenue fund, the New York state drug treatment education fund and the New York state community grants reinvestment fund;
6. to amend the tax law, in relation to providing for the levying of an excise tax on certain sales of marijuana;
7. to amend the criminal procedure law, the civil practice law and rules, the general business law, the state finance law, the executive law, the penal law and the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to making conforming changes;
8. to amend the alcoholic beverage control law, in relation to alcohol or substance use disorder training awareness programs;
9. to amend the state finance law, in relation to a revolving loan fund;
10. to amend the family court act, in relation to making conforming changes;
11. to repeal sections 221.05, 221.10, 221.15, 221.20, 221.25, 221.30, 221.35 and 221.40 of the penal law relating to the criminal possession and sale of marijuana;
12. to repeal paragraph (f) of subdivision 2 of section 850 of the general business law relating to drug related paraphernalia; *and*
13. to repeal section 150.75 of the criminal procedure law relating to appearance tickets for certain marijuana offenses;



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the members of the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club call on New York State elected officials to pass the Bill into law.

Submitted by:

Judy Richheimer

Chelsea Reform Democratic Club
Judy L, Richheimer, President

Date: March 21, 2019

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