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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8017

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Keiser, Murray, Delvin, Conway, Pflug, Tom, Regala, Fain, Fraser, and Kline

Read first time 01/26/12. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO MICHELE LEONHART,  
5 ADMINISTRATOR, UNITED STATES DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted  
10 laws permitting the medical use of marijuana. However, federal law  
11 continues to classify marijuana as a drug for which there is no medical  
12 use; and

13 WHEREAS, The divergence in state and federal law creates a  
14 situation where there is no regulated and safe system to supply  
15 legitimate patients who may need medical cannabis. It is clear that  
16 the long-standing classification of medical use of cannabis in the  
17 United States as an illegal Schedule I substance is fundamentally  
18 flawed and should be changed; and

19 WHEREAS, Governor Chafee and Governor Gregoire recently submitted

1 a petition to initiate rule-making proceedings for the reclassification  
2 of medical cannabis (also known as marijuana) from Schedule I to  
3 Schedule II of the Controlled Substances Act;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists write in support of Governor  
5 Chafee and Governor Gregoire's petition and respectfully pray that the  
6 Drug Enforcement Administration initiate rule-making proceedings to  
7 reclassify medical marijuana as a Schedule II drug so qualifying  
8 patients who follow state law may obtain the medication they need  
9 through the traditional and safe method of physician prescribing and  
10 pharmacy dispensing.

11 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
12 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
13 States, Michele Leonhart, Administrator of the United States Drug  
14 Enforcement Administration, the President of the United States Senate,  
15 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of  
16 Congress from the State of Washington.

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