

**Common Council
of the
City of Waukesha, Wisconsin**

Resolution No. _____

**A Resolution for Advisory Referendum
Regarding Medical Marijuana Legalization**

Whereas, the Common Council is authorized to conduct City-wide referenda for advisory purposes, *see* Wis. Stat. §7.15(2)(d); and

Whereas, a 2018 study in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) concluded that states that have permissive medical marijuana laws show decreased rates of opioid prescribing (decreases of 5.9% and 6.4%, respectively) when compared to states without said laws, and a review paper in the peer-reviewed journal Nursing Outlook shows that states with medical marijuana laws have experienced decreases in prescription opioid medication use, abuse, overdose and costs; and

Whereas, in states where medical marijuana is legal, marijuana prescriptions have been written to help with pain control, including pain caused by cancer, headaches and rheumatic arthritis, as well as to help patients experiencing nausea and vomiting, anxiety, sleep disorders, multiple sclerosis spasticity and loss of appetite. Marijuana prescriptions have also been written to help patients suffering from cancer, chronic diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy/seizure disorders, glaucoma and autoimmune diseases; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin State Legislature has failed to act on legislation to legalize and regulate marijuana, and has not allowed hearings on such legislation; and

Whereas, Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington have legalized the adult personal use of marijuana and regulate the production, distribution, and sale of marijuana, and Vermont and the District of Columbia have legalized the limited personal possession and cultivation of marijuana by adults; and

Whereas, the time law enforcement spends enforcing existing marijuana laws and ordinances negatively impacts the time available to solve more serious crimes and apprehend more dangerous criminals; and

Whereas, marijuana prohibition makes product quality control and sales regulation impossible, leaving marijuana sellers free to peddle potentially adulterated products to persons

suffering from serious pain, nausea and illness.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City of Waukesha Common Council hereby authorizes and directs that a City-wide advisory Referendum be conducted to be held with the November 2018 general election, that City of Waukesha staff and officials take any and all actions necessary to achieve this, and that the advisory Referendum question to be presented shall be as follows:

"Should cannabis be legalized in Wisconsin for medicinal purposes, and regulated in the same manner as other prescription drugs?"

Be it further resolved, that a Notice of Referenda shall be published by the Waukesha City Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements, and that any other necessary actions be taken by City officials and staff to hold these Referenda as stated above.

This Resolution was passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Waukesha this ____ day of August, 2018, by a vote of _____ ayes and _____ nays.

Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

Gina L. Kozlik, City Clerk