

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to increase the number of living marijuana plants that a cultivation center can possess at any time.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Medical Marijuana Supply Shortage Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2015”.

Sec. 2(a) This emergency is necessary to address the supply shortage of medical marijuana in the District of Columbia.

(b) With the passage of the “Medical Marijuana Expansion Amendment Act of 2014”, effective March 10, 2015 (D.C. Law 20-189; 62 DCMR 3818) the medical marijuana program is growing by 200 patients a month.

(c) The District’s medical marijuana program allows for 10 medical marijuana cultivation centers to be registered to cultivate, possess, and distribute medical marijuana. However, due to unforeseen circumstances only 5 cultivation centers are registered with the District of Columbia and only 3 are operational at this time.

1 (d) Since there is a 500 marijuana plant limit, the cultivation centers in the District  
2 are not equipped to meet the demands of the more than 2,700 patients that have registered for the  
3 medical marijuana program.

4 (e) According to the Drug Policy Alliance, the substantial increase in patients  
5 participating in the medical marijuana program has led to a situation where patient demand is far  
6 greater than the supply of medical marijuana in the District.

7 (f) The supply shortage has caused the three registered dispensaries that are  
8 operating in the District to either set restrictions on how much medical marijuana a patient may  
9 buy or they have had to close, leaving patients no options to purchase medical marijuana.

10 (g) Due to the shortage, patients are forced to buy marijuana off the black market  
11 to meet their needs which is illegal and is a major safety concern.

12 (h) The Department of Health has indicated that allowing the 5 cultivation centers  
13 to increase their production from 500 marijuana plants to 1000 marijuana plants will solve the  
14 current supply shortage issue.

15 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances  
16 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the  
17 Medical Marijuana Supply Shortage Emergency Amendment Act of 2015 be adopted after a  
18 single reading.

19 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.  
20  
21  
22