

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress to amend the federal
2 Controlled Substances Act to remove hemp from the definition of marijuana.

3 WHEREAS, for several years, hemp, a non-narcotic low-concentration THC variety
4 of the cannabis plant, has been listed along with marijuana under the federal Controlled
5 Substances Act; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2014, Congress enacted a provision of law, now codified as 7
7 U.S.C. sec. 5940, authorizing state departments of agriculture and institutions of higher
8 education to grow or cultivate industrial hemp in jurisdictions where it is allowed by state
9 law for purposes of research conducted under an agricultural pilot program or other
10 agricultural or academic research; and

11 WHEREAS, since 2014, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture has conducted a
12 hemp research pilot program that is widely regarded as a model for other states to
13 emulate; and

14 WHEREAS, Kentucky's farmers planted 33 acres of hemp in 2014, a total of 922
15 acres in 2015, some 2,300 acres in 2016, and 3,200 acres in 2017; and

16 WHEREAS, from 2014 to 2017, the number of farmers in Kentucky growing hemp
17 increased from 20 to 204, with even more interest in hemp production anticipated in
18 2018; and

19 WHEREAS, from 2014 to 2017, the number of hemp processors increased from
20 nine to 49; and

21 WHEREAS, in 2017, the General Assembly amended Kentucky's Controlled
22 Substances Act to exclude many hemp materials and products from the Commonwealth's
23 definition of illegal marijuana; and

24 WHEREAS, processors in Kentucky and other states have proven that hemp is an
25 economically viable agricultural commodity that can be used to make a wide variety of
26 useful products, including products for human consumption; and

27 WHEREAS, removing hemp from the federal definition of marijuana would allow

1 Kentucky's community of hemp farmers and processors to take full advantage of this
2 promising agricultural crop;

3 NOW, THEREFORE,

4 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
5 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

6 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky urges the
7 United States Congress to take action by enacting legislation that:

8 (1) Encourages large-scale commercial cultivation of hemp by removing it from
9 the list of controlled substances under the federal Controlled Substances Act;

10 (2) Prevents the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) from sending
11 DEA agents onto farms and other sites where hemp is being grown, stored, and
12 processed;

13 (3) Creates legal protections for depository institutions that provide financial
14 services to legitimate hemp businesses; and

15 (4) Instructs the federal Food and Drug Administration to accelerate clinical trials
16 and other research on the health effects of cannabidiol (CBD) and other cannabinoids
17 found in hemp.

18 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this
19 Resolution and notification of its adoption to the President and Vice President of the
20 United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority
21 Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United
22 States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and each member of
23 Kentucky's delegation to the United States Congress.