

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of Proposition 64 by the voters of California in November 2016, recreational cannabis use by adults is now legal in the State; and

WHEREAS, current law limits the amount of cannabis a person can possess to not more than 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis; and

WHEREAS, an individual over the age of 18 found in possession of more than 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis can be found guilty of a misdemeanor and sentenced to up to six months in county jail or a \$500 fine; and

WHEREAS, an individual possessing over 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis for personal use should not be subject to jail time or a significant fine; and

WHEREAS, people of color are subject to drug enforcement laws such as this at far higher rates than whites; and

WHEREAS, the State should eliminate any misdemeanor charges for possession for personal use and change this punishment to an infraction, subject to either a small fine or community service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017 - 2018 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for and/or SPONSORSHIP of legislation which would amend California Health & Safety Code § 11357(b)(2) to change the punishment for the possession of more than 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis for personal use to an infraction punishable by community service or a fine of not more than \$100.

PRESENTED BY: 
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

AUG 18 2017

jwd