

RESOLUTION

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, through either legislative action or voter referendum, 46 states have laws permitting or decriminalizing cannabis or cannabis-based products; and

WHEREAS, California voters overwhelmingly approved the full legalization of adult-use cannabis via Proposition 64 in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the federal government still considers cannabis an illegal substance under the Controlled Substances Act and continues to prosecute its possession and use even in states where it is legal; and

WHEREAS, persons who engage in state permitted cannabis business operations are prevented from accessing financial services due to federal policy; and

WHEREAS, the lack of access to financial services has forced the cannabis industry to operate on an all cash basis, creating security and public safety issues for cannabis businesses as well as the government offices and industries that serve them; and

WHEREAS, HR. 1595 and S.1200, also known as the Secure And Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act of 2019, is currently pending in the U.S. House and Senate and would allow depository institutions to offer financial services to legitimate cannabis industry operators without the threat of federal prosecution; and

WHEREAS, allowing licensed cannabis businesses access to financial services will increase their security and facilitate greater public safety in the cities and states that license them;

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 2018-2019 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR. 1595 and S. 1200, also known as the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which would allow the cannabis industry to access financial services without the service providers being subjected to possible federal prosecution.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Kekorian

PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY: Bl. Zimmerman

Steve J. Perry

ORIGINAL

JUL 03 2019

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