

Lexington- Fayette Urban County Government Special Council Meeting

Lexington, Kentucky February 27, 2018

The Council of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky convened in special session on February 27, 2018 at 5:01 p.m. Present were Vice-Mayor Kay in the chair presiding, in the absence of Mayor Gray, and the following members of the council: Bledsoe, F. Brown, J. Brown, Evans, Farmer, Gibbs, Henson, Lamb, Moloney, Plomin, Smith, Stinnett, Worley. Absent was Council Member Mossotti.

The reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting was waived.

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The Council discussed a procedural matter.

Mr. Keith Horn, Dept. of Law, offered his opinion as to how the Council should proceed.

Mr. Stinnett assumed the Chair.

Vice Mayor Kay moved to place the following resolution on the docket for first reading:

A Resolution encouraging the Kentucky General Assembly to consider legalizing medical cannabis in Kentucky and provide for the care, comfort and relief of any Kentuckian who may benefit.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Henson and passed by unanimous vote.

Vice Mayor Kay resumed the Chair.

The resolution received first reading.

Mr. F. Brown requested that the resolution be read in full. Without objection, the full text of the resolution was read as follows:

WHEREAS, thousands of Kentuckians suffer from debilitating pain and symptoms from numerous diseases or chronic illnesses; including but not limited to cancer, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Crohn's disease, and fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, medical cannabis is widely known to limit the negative symptoms and debilitating pain for patients of numerous diseases or chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, more than two million Americans use medical cannabis to ease the symptoms and debilitating pain due to illnesses or ailments in the 29 states and District of Columbia where such treatment is legal; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of American Medical Association Internal Medicine reports that opioid overdose deaths have fallen by 25 percent in states that have legalized medical cannabis; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

Section 1 - That the above recitals are incorporated herein as if fully stated.

Section 2 - That the Urban County Council of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government hereby encourages the Kentucky General Assembly to consider legalizing medical cannabis in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and provide for the care, comfort and relief of any Kentuckian who may benefit.

Section 3 – That the Clerk of the Urban County Council is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the President Pro Tempore of the Kentucky State Senate; the Speaker of the Kentucky State House of Representatives; the following state Representatives: Russ Meyer (District 39), Stan Lee (District 45), James Kay (District 56), Phillip Pratt (District 62), Sannie Overly (District 72), Kelly Flood (District 75), Ruth Ann Palumbo (District 76), George Brown, Jr. (District 77), Susan Westrom (District 79), and Robert Benvenuti III (District 88); and the following state Senators: Alice Forgy Kerr (District 12), Reginald Thomas (District 13), Tom Buford (District 22), Ralph Alvarado (District 28), and Jared Carpenter (District 34).

Section 4 - That this Resolution shall become effective on the date of its passage.

Upon motion by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Plomin, and approved by unanimous vote, the rules were suspended and the resolution received second reading.

Mr. Stinnett moved to approve the resolution and the motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer.

Ms. Bledsoe commented on her considerations in voting.

Vice Mayor Kay discussed the specific language of the resolution and why it was phrased as it was.

The resolution was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Bledsoe, F. Brown, J. Brown, Evans, Farmer, -----14
Gibbs, Henson, Kay, Lamb, Moloney,
Plomin, Smith, Stinnett, Worley

Nay: -----0

Upon motion by Mr. Stinnett, seconded by Ms. Bledsoe, and approved by unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Clerk of the Urban County Council