

## Resolution to Support the Use of Medical Cannabis

WHEREAS, Utah has the seventh highest opiate overdose death rate in the nation;

WHEREAS, there is ample evidence that medical cannabis reduces accidental deaths as an alternative treatment for chronic pain associated with cancer, AIDS, multiple sclerosis, and nerve damage;

WHEREAS, medical cannabis is effective in alleviating nausea and loss of appetite from chemotherapy, eye pressure from glaucoma, seizures from neurological disorders, and symptoms from many other illnesses including PTSD;

WHEREAS, several recent polls show that 2/3 or more of Utah voters would support legalizing medical cannabis as directed by licensed doctors;

WHEREAS, patients in 29 states and the District of Columbia can safely and properly use medical cannabis as treatment without fear of legal punishment;

WHEREAS, since 2014, low-THC cannabidiol extracted from the cannabis plant has been legal in Utah for the purpose of treating intractable epilepsy, but there is no legal option to obtain the medicine in Utah; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature passed a resolution during the 2017 general legislative session urging Congress to change the classification of cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule II;

RESOLVED, that the Utah Republican Party supports the right of an individual to use medical cannabis as treatment for a diagnosed condition when properly directed by a physician.

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