

# House Concurrent Resolution 104 - Introduced

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 104

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FORBES, BENNETT, BROWN-POWERS, ISENHART, H. MILLER,  
and KURTH

1 A Concurrent Resolution urging Congress and the  
2 President of the United States to reclassify  
3 cannabis as a schedule II controlled substance under  
4 the United States Controlled Substances Act.

5 WHEREAS, while Iowa and 28 other states and the  
6 District of Columbia have enacted laws allowing  
7 the regulated use of medical cannabis for numerous  
8 debilitating medical conditions, including but not  
9 limited to cancer; multiple sclerosis; seizures,  
10 including those characteristic of epilepsy; AIDS or  
11 HIV; Crohn's Disease; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis;  
12 and Parkinson's Disease, cannabis use remains illegal  
13 under the United States Controlled Substances Act; and

14 WHEREAS, cannabis is currently classified by  
15 the federal Drug Enforcement Agency as a schedule I  
16 controlled substance under the United States Controlled  
17 Substances Act, a classification that impedes  
18 large-scale medical and scientific research on the  
19 effects of cannabis; and

20 WHEREAS, a schedule I controlled substance is  
21 a highly addictive substance that has no accepted  
22 medical use in the United States, such as heroin, and a  
23 schedule II controlled substance is a highly addictive  
24 substance that has an accepted medical use in the

1 United States, such as fentanyl; and

2 WHEREAS, substances classified as a schedule  
3 II controlled substance may be dispensed with a  
4 prescription under certain circumstances and are  
5 subject to large-scale research, testing, and  
6 manufacturing; and

7 WHEREAS, there is a significant lack of medical and  
8 scientific research on medical cannabis by industries,  
9 universities, research institutions, and federal  
10 agencies, including but not limited to the Food and  
11 Drug Administration in the United States due in part to  
12 the fact that cannabis is classified as a schedule I  
13 controlled substance; and

14 WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General's  
15 reports on the health consequences of tobacco use in  
16 the United States over a 50-year period are based on  
17 scientifically rigorous reviews and analyses of data  
18 on the prevalence, causes, effects, and implications  
19 of tobacco use in the United States and reclassifying  
20 cannabis as a schedule II controlled substance  
21 would allow for a similar rigorous scientific review  
22 of clinical research and testing by industries,  
23 universities, research institutions, and federal  
24 agencies on the potential benefits of medical  
25 cannabis; and

26 WHEREAS, the classification of cannabis by the  
27 federal Drug Enforcement Agency as a schedule I  
28 controlled substance causes the possession, sale, or  
29 use of cannabis to trigger federal statutes, including  
30 federal forfeiture provisions; and

1 WHEREAS, concerns about the criminality and  
2 forfeiture provisions in federal law impede traditional  
3 banking institutions from doing business with potential  
4 clients who cultivate, research, sell, or use cannabis  
5 and its derivatives, therefore making cannabis commerce  
6 very difficult; and

7 WHEREAS, the inability to utilize traditional  
8 banking institutions impedes state and local  
9 governments from adequately monitoring cannabis use,  
10 and shortchanges the respective taxes owed to state  
11 and local governments, potentially costing hundreds of  
12 millions of dollars in lost tax revenue; and

13 WHEREAS, because cannabis businesses are unable  
14 to legally utilize traditional banking institutions,  
15 many cannabis businesses resort to the black market  
16 and organized crime, making communities less safe; NOW  
17 THEREFORE,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
19 THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly  
20 respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to  
21 enact legislation to reclassify cannabis as a schedule  
22 II controlled substance under the United States  
23 Controlled Substances Act; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an official copy of  
25 this resolution be transmitted to the President of  
26 the United States, the Surgeon General of the United  
27 States, the President and Secretary of the United  
28 States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United  
29 States House of Representatives, and to members of the  
30 Iowa congressional delegation.