
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 656 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY DIAMOND, KAUFER, BERNSTINE, CHARLTON, DEAN,
DeLUCA, DOWLING, A. HARRIS, NEILSON, ORTITAY, READSHAW, RYAN,
SCHLOSSBERG AND SNYDER, JANUARY 24, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 24, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to amend the Gun
2 Control Act of 1968 to protect the constitutional rights of
3 medical cannabis users.

4 WHEREAS, In 1968, the Congress of the United States passed
5 the Gun Control Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-618, 82 Stat. 1213)
6 to regulate the firearms industry and firearms owners; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1970, the Congress of the United States passed
8 the Controlled Substances Act (Public Law 91-513, 84 Stat.
9 1236), which designates cannabis in the most restrictive
10 category as a Schedule I drug; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1993, the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act
12 (Public Law 103-159, 107 Stat. 1536) amended the Gun Control Act
13 of 1968 by restricting individuals who use controlled substances
14 from owning firearms and ammunition; and

15 WHEREAS, The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and
16 Explosives has issued guidance on restricting individuals who
17 use cannabis from owning firearms and ammunition; and

18 WHEREAS, Section 102 of the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L.84,

1 No.16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, states that
2 "Scientific evidence suggests that medical marijuana is one
3 potential therapy that may mitigate suffering in some patients
4 and also enhance quality of life"; and

5 WHEREAS, The Second Amendment of the Constitution of the
6 United States guarantees "the right of the people to keep and
7 bear arms"; and

8 WHEREAS, The Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the
9 United States guarantees that no person shall "be deprived of
10 life, liberty, or property, without due process of law"; and

11 WHEREAS, The Tenth Amendment of the Constitution of the
12 United States provides: "The powers not delegated to the United
13 States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States,
14 are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people";
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
18 States to amend the Gun Control Act of 1968 to protect the
19 constitutional rights of medical cannabis users; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the
22 President of the United States, the presiding officers of each
23 house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
24 Pennsylvania.