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HOUSE MEMORIAL 5

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY
Bill McCamley

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO CREATE
LAWS THAT PROTECT THE USE OF MEDICINAL CANNABIS IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the use of cannabis for medical purposes has been
legal in New Mexico since the Lynn and Erin Compassionate Use
Act was passed in 2007; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are over forty thousand patients
in the state who use cannabis for ailments like cancer and
military service-related posttraumatic stress disorder; and

WHEREAS, since the Lynn and Erin Compassionate Use Act was
passed, there has been no noticeable negative social
consequence of medical cannabis use, while tens of thousands of
New Mexicans have positively benefited from it; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, the United States department of
justice has refrained from enforcing federal cannabis laws in

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1 states that allow for medicinal and social use as long as users
2 do not break eight specific rules defined in a memo written by
3 United States department of justice then-deputy attorney
4 general James Cole; and

5 WHEREAS, in January 2018, United States attorney general
6 Jeff Sessions rescinded the Cole memo and reinstated a policy
7 of imprisoning medicinal cannabis users in New Mexico and
8 twenty-eight other states plus the District of Columbia; and

9 WHEREAS, a significant majority of New Mexicans in public
10 surveys have been shown to support medicinal cannabis use;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that tens of
13 thousands of New Mexicans using medicinal cannabis to help them
14 live better lives should not face imprisonment; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a formal request be made to
16 the New Mexico congressional delegation to create new
17 legislation protecting medicinal cannabis users in New Mexico
18 from the threat of being sent to federal prison; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to members of the New Mexico congressional
21 delegation.