

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO RE-STATE THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL INTENT OF THE FEDERAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT IS NOT TO PROHIBIT THE PRODUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL HEMP.

1 WHEREAS, industrial hemp and marijuana are both species of 2 the plant genus Cannabis sativa, which contains a unique class 3 of molecules called cannabinoids, one of which is delta 9 4 tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, which delivers a psychoactive 5 effect; and

7 WHEREAS, industrial hemp refers to the nondrug oilseed and 8 fiber varieties of Cannabis that have less than three-tenths of 9 one per cent dela 9 tetrahydrocannabinol and that are cultivated 10 exclusively for fiber, stalk, and seed, and are genetically 11 distinct from drug varieties of Cannabis; and

WHEREAS, industrial hemp is genetically distinct from drug
 varieties of Cannabis, and the flowering tops of industrial hemp
 cannot product any drug effect when smoked or ingested; and

WHEREAS, the legislative history of the Marijuana Tax Act
of 1937 indicates that Congress never intended to prohibit the
production of industrial hemp when restricting the production,
possession, and use of marijuana; and

22 WHEREAS, the federal Controlled Substances Act of 1970 23 specifies the findings to which the government must attest in 24 order to classify a substance as a schedule I drug, and those 25 findings include that the substance has a high potential for 26 abuse, has no accepted medical use, and has a lack of accepted 27 safety for use, none of which applies to industrial hemp; and 28

29 WHEREAS, industrial hemp is a high-value low-input crop 30 that is not genetically modified, requires little or no



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pesticides, can be dry-land farmed, and uses less fertilizer 1 2 than wheat or corn; and 3 4 WHEREAS, industrial hemp grows in a wide variety of climates, has a short growing cycle, leaves the soil well 5 6 ventilated, and clears weeds from fields; and 7 8 WHEREAS, industrial hemp is one of the most versatile, productive, and useful fiber plants known and is part of a 9 10 greater trend that is transforming agricultural crops into new products that are both economically and environmentally sound; 11 12 and 13 WHEREAS, industrial hemp is grown for its fiber, woody 14 15 stalk, and seeds; and 16 WHEREAS, the fiber of industrial hemp, located on the 17 outside of the stalk, can be used to make clothing, bags, 18 19 carpeting, upholstery, and rope; and 20 WHEREAS, the woody stalk of industrial hem can be used to 21 make paper, teabags, cigarette rolls, construction materials, 22 23 animal bedding, fiberglass, and plastics; and 24 WHEREAS, the seeds of industrial hemp can be used in food 25 products such as bagels, salad dressing, dietary supplements, 26 and animal feed, and in personal-care products such as skin 27 lotion, moisturizers and shampoo, and in industrial products 28 such as paints, inks, varnishes, or biomass fuel; and 29 30 WHEREAS, industrial hemp thus offers significant business 31 and employment opportunities in such broad commercial sectors as 32 farming, processing, manufacturing, retailing, recycling, and 33 cooperatives; and 34 35 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, the production of industrial hemp will 36 allow Hawaii to fulfill its constitutional mandate to converse 37 38 and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency, and assure the 39 availability of agriculturally suitable lands, because the 40 production of industrial hemp involves little use of water and 41 42 little or no pesticides; and 43



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WHEREAS, the production of industrial hemp in Hawaii will 1 also support the self-sufficiency of the building and 2 construction industries in Hawaii because industrial hemp can 3 provide a local source of building materials that are superior 4 to lumber, would not need to be imported at great expense from 5 overseas, and basically would require mixture with only one 6 other locally produced product, specifically, lime, to produce 7 hemcrete; now, therefore, 8

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 11 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 12 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the United States 13 Congress and the President of the United States are encouraged 14 to re-state that the congressional intent of the federal 15 Controlled Substances Act is not to prohibit the production of 16 industrial hemp; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

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OFFERED BY:

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