

2020 Platform Resolution PACG Drug Policy Forum

Issue: Marijuana/Cannabis Legalization

Whereas, marijuana/cannabis prohibition hasn't worked, with marijuana use being mainstream widespread;

Whereas prohibition wastes public resources, while marijuana taxation brings in much-needed revenue;¹

Whereas prohibition sends an overwhelming number of Americans through the criminal justice system, ruining countless lives;

Whereas arresting marijuana offenders prevents police from focusing on real crime;² and,

Whereas prohibition is detrimental to the environment;³ now, be it

Resolved that Iowa lawmakers support marijuana/cannabis legalization.

Proposed by
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Submitted by _____
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Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Caucus Secretary _____ Precinct Number _____

¹ The Congressional Research Service projected that replacing marijuana prohibition with taxation and regulation would yield \$6.8 billion in excise taxes alone. In Washington State, taxes on cannabis sales brought in more than \$400 million in 2017.

² More than 650,000 marijuana arrests and citations — more than for all violent crimes combined. Meanwhile, FBI data showed that less than 46% of violent crimes and only 18.3% of property crimes were cleared nationwide. Data published in Police Quarterly showed a higher percentage of some crimes were solved after legalization in both Colorado and Washington.

³ Illicit marijuana growers sometimes use banned pesticides, divert waterways, and leave hazardous waste in state and national parks. Regulated cannabis businesses are monitored to ensure compliance with zoning and environmental laws.