

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to create the L.E.T.T.'s Grow Task Force.

2 WHEREAS, a growing number of states and citizens have developed a more open
3 attitude toward the use of cannabis and cannabis products; and

4 WHEREAS, an expanding body of evidence suggests the effects of cannabis use
5 are not as severe as once believed; and

6 WHEREAS, many licensed health practitioners have recognized the benefits of the
7 use of medical cannabis for therapeutic and palliative care; and

8 WHEREAS, eliminating misdemeanor cannabis convictions would affect thousands
9 of Kentuckians and would save the Commonwealth millions of dollars each year; and

10 WHEREAS, cannabis production and sales regulated by the state would provide a
11 substantial source of revenue for the Commonwealth and local governments; and

12 WHEREAS, taxes and fees from cannabis could fund substance use disorder
13 treatment facilities and providers statewide;

14 NOW, THEREFORE,

15 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
16 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

17 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall establish the L.E.T.T.'s
18 (Legalize, Expunge, Treat, and Tax) Grow Task Force. The task force shall investigate
19 and make recommendations regarding:

20 (1) The reasons to legalize cannabis for both medical and personal use;

21 (2) Best practices for legalization;

22 (3) The economic effects of legalized cannabis on the tax base and revenue
23 stream of state, county, and city governments;

24 (4) The effects of the legalization of cannabis on incarceration rates, and
25 expenditures of the judicial branch, law enforcement, state crime labs, and local
26 governments;

27 (5) Promotion of social justice and equity through the establishment of a legalized

1 cannabis system;

2 (6) The structure of licensing and fees relating to legalized cannabis;

3 (7) The marketing of a legalized cannabis system; and

4 (8) Best practices for expungement of misdemeanor cannabis convictions that
5 occurred before legalization.

6 ➔Section 2. The task force shall be composed of the following members with
7 final membership of the task force being subject to the consideration and approval of the
8 Legislative Research Commission:

9 (1) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of
10 the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated by the Speaker of the
11 House of Representatives as a co-chair of the task force;

12 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority
13 Floor Leader of the House of Representatives;

14 (3) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of
15 whom shall be designated by the President of the Senate as a co-chair of the task force;

16 (4) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the
17 Senate;

18 (5) The Commissioner of Agriculture or designee;

19 (6) One representative from the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet recommended
20 by the secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet;

21 (7) One representative from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce recommended
22 by the Governor;

23 (8) One representative from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services who
24 specializes in mental health and addiction issues recommended by the secretary of the
25 Cabinet for Health and Family Services;

26 (9) One person representing a testing laboratory or facility who is knowledgeable
27 about the techniques for testing cannabis, as recommended by the Governor; and

1 (10) One representative from the American Civil Liberties Union recommended by
2 the Governor.

3 ➔Section 3. The task force shall meet at least once every two months during the
4 2023 Interim of the General Assembly. The task force shall submit findings and
5 recommendations to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the appropriate
6 committee or committees by December 1, 2023.

7 ➔Section 4. All executive agencies and the Administrative Office of the Courts
8 shall promptly provide necessary data, research, and other requested information to assist
9 the task force.

10 ➔Section 5. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the
11 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
12 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof and to
13 designate a study completion date.