

HOUSE No. 3196

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David M. Rogers

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying resolution:

Resolutions from the commonwealth to our senators and representative in Congress and the President.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 3196

By Mr. Rogers of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by resolution, House, No. 3196) of David M. Rogers memorializing the Congress of the United States to secure the deletion of the word marihuana from the federal Controlled Substances Act. Marijuana Policy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

Resolutions from the commonwealth to our senators and representative in Congress and the President.

1 Whereas like Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, California, Nevada and Maine, the
2 Commonwealth, by the people, has opted to authorize the regulation, taxation and control of
3 commerce in cannabis, and expects soon to license cultivation, processing and retail sales of
4 cannabis to adults, extracting costs of implementation from applicants and licensees, with new
5 revenue going to the commonwealth and municipalities; and

6 Whereas, the development of regulations and the carrying out of effective supervision of
7 this new industry requires the best possible understanding of the long term impact of marijuana
8 use on the health of individuals and the long-term impact of widespread use on the public health
9 generally; and

10 Whereas, the development of a robust and transparent industry requires access to
11 conventional business banking services; and

12 Whereas, marijuana remains prohibited under federal law, as a result of which

- 13 - scientific and medical research into the effect of marijuana is severely thwarted;
- 14 - banks are dissuaded from doing business with state-legal cannabis enterprises,
- 15 forcing them operate in cash and exposing them to criminal violence; and
- 16 - federal resources are misdirected on a prohibition inimical to our own law and
- 17 having neither the support of the people nor any reasonable prospect of halting the spread of
- 18 marijuana into the economic and cultural mainstream; and

19 Whereas, the commonwealth wants to be a leader in medicine and the business of

20 cannabis, but is stymied by federal prohibition; and

21 Whereas, the commonwealth is ready to assume the responsibility of supervising the new

22 above-ground cannabis industry, and is not needful of federal assistance in that regard;

23 Now, therefore, be it resolved:

24 1. That our senators and representatives in Congress be requested to use all honorable

25 means to secure the deletion of the word “marihuana” from the federal Controlled Substances

26 Act, 21 U.S.C. 801 et seq , with appropriate edits to accommodate such deletion.

27 2. That his excellency the governor be requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to

28 each of the senators and representatives of Massachusetts in the Congress of the United States,

29 and the President of the United States.