

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Diamondhead as a member of the Mississippi Municipal League (“MML”) which provides a unified voice through legislative advocacy, training, and education opportunities for those members.

WHEREAS, the City of Diamondhead along with the MML recognizes there is evidence that medication marijuana, when used under doctor supervision, may provide benefits for certain medical conditions, and such decisions should ultimately be between a doctor and patient.

WHEREAS, marijuana is a Schedule 1 drug and illegal under Federal law.

WHEREAS, Initiative 65 has been placed on the November 2020 ballot and will allow the public to vote on whether to amend the Mississippi Constitution to legalize medical marijuana.

WHEREAS, legalization of marijuana medical or otherwise, should not occur by constitutional amendment because there would be no oversight by the Legislature, and any change to Initiative 65 would be severely limited as it would require an additional ballot measure rendering any changes essentially impossible.

WHEREAS, Initiative 65 will prevent municipalities from regulating the location of medical marijuana dispensaries through zoning and would prohibit municipalities from limiting the number of dispensaries, and therefore negatively impact property values within their boundaries.

WHEREAS, Initiative 65 will deprive municipalities of tax revenue generated from sale of medical marijuana impacting municipal resources and services without contribution to maintenance and support.

WHEREAS, the demands on police departments will likely increase due to the growth in marijuana use as a result of its legislation.

WHEREAS, Initiative 65 would put the State and its citizens in conflict and federal law.

WHEREAS, while there is a diversity of thought among its members about whether and to what extent the use of marijuana should be legalized, the City of Diamondhead along with the MML agrees that Initiative 65 is not the proper avenue for doing so.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Council for the City of Diamondhead expresses its strong opposition to Initiative 65; through its Board of Directors that:

- The City of Diamondhead expresses its strong opposition to Initiative 65;
- The City of Diamondhead encourages its citizens to oppose the initiative by voting against amending the Mississippi Constitution and for Alternative No. 65A;

- This Resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Council of the City of Diamondhead.

COUNCILMEMBER _____, AND THE MATTER BEING PUT TO VOTE, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD ON THE ____ DAY OF _____, 2020.

	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Councilmember Depreo	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember L'Ecuyer	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Moran	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Morgan	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Clark	_____	_____	_____

NANCY DEPREO
MAYOR PRO TEM

Attest:

Jeannie Klein, City Clerk

-