



City of Cambridge

8.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 19, 1983

COUNCILLOR WALTER SULLIVAN

ORDERED:

That all matters presently listed on the City Council Calendar which have not been acted upon be placed on file, without prejudice, subject to the condition that they may be re-submitted for consideration to the next legislative session of the City Council by notice to the City Clerk.

In City Council December 19, 1983.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

June 29, 1983

Frederick Carlson, Director
Food and Drug Administration
Boston District Office
585 Commercial Street
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. Carlson:

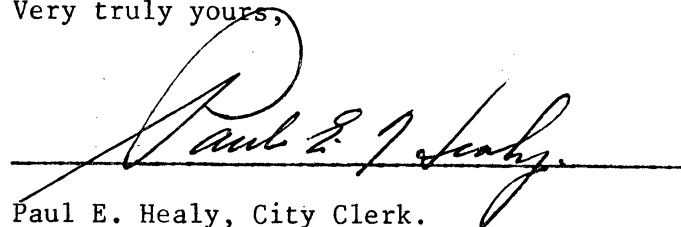
Pursuant to the request of the Cambridge City Council, I am forwarding a copy of the enclosed communication from Dr. H.L. Humes, dated June 15, 1983, proposing for adoption by the City Council a resolution with regard to the uses of cannabis in medicine.

The City Council at its meeting of June 20, 1983 "tabled" this petition, pending report from the Cambridge Commissioner of Health and Hospitals, Dr. Melvin Chalfen. Dr. Chalfen, in his report dated June 22, 1983, a copy of which is enclosed, indicated that cannabis is not a recognized medical treatment and suggested that this matter be referred to the Food and Drug Administration, which has jurisdiction in such matters.

The City Council at its meeting of Monday, June 27, 1983 requested that this office contact your office and request your views on this issue, prior to its taking any further action on this proposed resolution.

Your very kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated, both by the City Council and this office.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/mh

Enclosures: resolution of Dr. H.L. Humes
letter of Dr. Chalfen dated 6/22/83

WHEREAS recent research in many countries has confirmed the broad utility of cannabis in medicine; and

WHEREAS cannabis is one of the least toxic substances in materia medica; and

WHEREAS the use of cannabis as a relaxant and tonic herb has been known for thousands of years and widely reconfirmed; and

WHEREAS the industrialized nations in particular are suffering from anxiety-tension in epidemic form; and

WHEREAS the cancer-proneness profile appears closely to match the anxiety profile; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis and other relaxation therapies in preventing and regressing cancer has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS among the debilitating psychosocial results of this epidemic, the current arms race appears to be symptomatic of weapons-fetishism--a well-known symptom of anxiety-neurosis--on an unprecedented scale; and

WHEREAS the high cost of mass psychosis in wars and potential economic failure has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the cost of the anxiety/tension epidemic in psychosocial disorders such as arson, rape, vandalism, child and wife abuse, etc., has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis and other relaxation therapies in alleviating epidemic anxiety-tension has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the exclusion of cannabis from the pharmacopoeia has resulted in the widespread adulteration and poisoning of this herb; and

WHEREAS the bulk of serious drug abuse in the industrialized nations is actually of toxic addictive legal substances (such as alcohol and pharmaceutical sedatives and tranquilizers); and

WHEREAS cannabis is neither toxic nor addictive; and

WHEREAS the use of cannabis to detoxify from various kinds of drugs that have an addictive cycle, including heroin and alcohol, has been widely reported; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis in such detoxification from addictive drugs has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS present interpretation of the law has inhibited potentially valuable further research on the medical uses of cannabis; and

WHEREAS it is clear from the legislative history that it was not the intent of Congress or the Massachusetts legislature to prohibit research; and

WHEREAS: the right to conduct and publish research is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this City Council go on record as noting that nothing in the statutory law should be construed as prohibiting research, public or private, on the uses of cannabis in medicine; and further

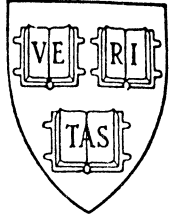
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislature of Massachusetts be and hereby is requested to re-examine the legislation relative to the use of cannabis in medicine with a view towards taking corrective action through legislation to clarify and ensure that research in the uses of cannabis in medicine is protected and encouraged.



The Cambridge Hospital

Affiliated with

Harvard Medical School



JUN 22 1983
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

June 22, 1983

Mr. Paul E. Healy,
City Clerk
City of Cambridge
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy,

Thank you for sending me a copy of a proposed resolution by Dr. H.L. Humes in regard to cannabis.

I do not feel competent to comment upon the legal restrictions on the use of cannabis in general.

Cannabis is not a recognized medical treatment. It would be more appropriate to refer this type of question to the Food and Drug Administration which has authority over the use of drugs and exclusive jurisdiction over the investigation and use of drugs in treatment.

Yours sincerely,

Melvin H. Chalfen, M.D.,
Commissioner of Health & Hospitals

MHC:vls



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Dr. Melvin Chalfen, Commissioner of Health and
Hospitals

Date June 15, 1983

From Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

Reference

Subject enclosed proposed resolution regarding the
use of cannibus in medical treatments

Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of a proposed resolution by Dr. H. L. Humes and associates submitted to the City Council for its consideration after hearing held on June 13, 1983 as requested by Dr. Humes. The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the matter of using cannibus in medical treatments. which is also the subject of this proposed resolution.

Upon receipt of this proposed resolution by this office, the City Council has directed that I forward a copy of this proposed resolution to you, with the further request that you submit a report to the Council by June 27th with your recommendations pursuant to this matter.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated by both this office and the City Council.

PEH/mh

Enclosure

WHEREAS recent research in many countries has confirmed the broad utility of cannabis in medicine; and

WHEREAS cannabis is one of the least toxic substances in materia medica; and

WHEREAS the use of cannabis as a relaxant and tonic herb has been known for thousands of years and widely reconfirmed; and

WHEREAS the industrialized nations in particular are suffering from anxiety-tension in epidemic form; and

WHEREAS the cancer-proneness profile appears closely to match the anxiety profile; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis and other relaxation therapies in preventing and regressing cancer has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS among the debilitating psychosocial results of this epidemic, the current arms race appears to be symptomatic of weapons-fetishism--a well-known symptom of anxiety-neurosis--on an unprecedented scale; and

WHEREAS the high cost of mass psychosis in wars and potential economic failure has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the cost of the anxiety/tension epidemic in psychosocial disorders such as arson, rape, vandalism, child and wife abuse, etc., has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis and other relaxation therapies in alleviating epidemic anxiety-tension has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS the exclusion of cannabis from the pharmacopoeia has resulted in the widespread adulteration and poisoning of this herb; and

WHEREAS the bulk of serious drug abuse in the industrialized nations is actually of toxic addictive legal substances (such as alcohol and pharmaceutical sedatives and tranquilizers); and

WHEREAS cannabis is neither toxic nor addictive; and

WHEREAS the use of cannabis to detoxify from various kinds of drugs that have an addictive cycle, including heroin and alcohol, has been widely reported; and

WHEREAS the potential role of cannabis in such detoxification from addictive drugs has never been adequately assessed; and

WHEREAS present interpretation of the law has inhibited potentially valuable further research on the medical uses of cannabis; and

WHEREAS it is clear from the legislative history that it was not the intent of Congress or the Massachusetts legislature to prohibit research; and

WHEREAS: the right to conduct and publish research is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this City Council go on record as noting that nothing in the statutory law should be construed as prohibiting research, public or private, on the uses of cannabis in medicine; and further

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislature of Massachusetts be and hereby is requested to re-examine the legislation relative to the use of cannabis in medicine with a view towards taking corrective action through legislation to clarify and ensure that research in the uses of cannabis in medicine is protected and encouraged.

Mr. Spiree left this
for you.

sent by
June 27th
from Chicago

492-4642

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

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WHEREAS the right to conduct and publish research is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this city council go on record as noting that nothing in the statutory law should be construed as prohibiting research, public or private, on the uses of cannabis in medicine; and further

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts]* be and hereby is requested to re-examine the legislation relative to the use of cannabis in medicine with a view towards taking corrective action through legislation to clarify and ensure that research in the uses of cannabis in medicine is protected and encouraged.

* DOC THOUGHT WE SHOULD USE "LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS." HE THINKS "GREAT & GENERAL COURT" DOESN'T SOUND DEMOCRATIC ENOUGH.

Comm. from Paul E. Healy, City Clerk, transmitting a proposed resolution from Dr. H.L. Humes & associates Re: the uses of cannabis in medicine.

12/19/83 - *Placed on file
pursuant to Ord. #8*

*Copy sent to Frederick Carlson, Director of
the Boston Regional Office of the Food & Drug
Administration with letter & copy of Dr.
Chalfen's report 6/29/83 mh*

*copy of this proposed resolution
sent to Dr. Chalfen, Commissioner of
Health & Hospitals for report 6/15/83 mh*

In City Council,

June 20, 1983

6/20/83

*Noted pending
Report FR 119
Dr Chalfen*