



KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

January 16, 2015

Resolution 15-01

Proposed No. 15-01.1

Sponsors

1 A RESOLUTION calling on the Washington state
2 Legislature to act to restrict youth access to edible
3 marijuana products.

4 WHEREAS, the residents of Washington state have the reasonable right to expect
5 protection for children from access to harmful substances, and

6 WHEREAS, recent research has determined that marijuana can be harmful to
7 children's developing brains and can be fatally toxic in large amounts, and

8 WHEREAS, the Washington Poison Center reported a significant increase in
9 marijuana overdoses in 2014 with more than half of cases occurring in children between
10 the ages of thirteen and nineteen, and

11 WHEREAS, twenty percent of all marijuana-related calls to the Washington
12 Poison Center involved children in King County. By the end of November, forty-three
13 calls reported cases of pediatric marijuana poisoning occurring in children and youth
14 under the age of nineteen, and

15 WHEREAS, many edible marijuana products available in medical marijuana
16 dispensaries are designed, packaged and advertised in ways that are attractive to youth,
17 including the development of products such as candies, cookies, chocolates and soda and
18 other sugary drinks, and

19 WHEREAS, edible marijuana products often contain concentrated amounts of
20 Tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana,
21 that can exceed the amounts ingested by smoking, and

22 WHEREAS, many of the edible products that are available in medical marijuana
23 dispensaries do not note concentration of THC or the appropriate serving size on
24 packaging or labels, and

25 WHEREAS, medical dispensaries are not required to ascertain the age of
26 consumers, and

27 WHEREAS, legalization of marijuana for adult use in Washington state may have
28 made access to marijuana easier for people of all ages, including access to edible
29 marijuana products, and

30 WHEREAS, under the provisions of Washington State Initiative Measure no. 502,
31 codified within chapter 69.50 RCW, and Washington Liquor Control Board rules, the
32 sale of edible marijuana products that appeal to children in recreational stores is
33 prohibited, and

34 WHEREAS, the Washington state Legislature has the authority to regulate both
35 the medical and recreational marijuana industries;

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King
37 County:

38 The Board of Health calls on the Washington state Legislature to ensure that the
39 marijuana industry in Washington state properly safeguards the health and safety of our
40 children and youth, and to align regulation of the medical marijuana industry with the

41 recreational marijuana market in order to provide an equal level of protection to children
42 and youth in both industries.

43

Resolution 15-01 was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 1/15/2015,
by the following vote:

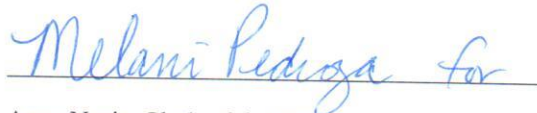
Yes: 9 - Ms. Lambert, Mr. Licata, Ms. Clark, Dr. Danielson, Mr.
McDermott, Ms. Wales, Mr. Dembowski, Dr. Delecki and Ms. Honda
No: 0
Excused: 3 - Dr. Nicola, Mr. Baker and Ms. Sawant

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None