

**RESOLUTION**  
**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**OF THE MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**  
**OPPOSING INITIATIVE 65**

**WHEREAS**, the membership of the Mississippi Municipal League (“MML”) is comprised of approximately 300 municipalities across Mississippi, and it provides a unified voice through legislative advocacy, training, and educational opportunities for those members.

**WHEREAS**, the MML recognizes there is evidence that medical 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 I 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 the 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 legalization.

**WHEREAS**, Initiative 65 would put the State and its citizens in conflict with 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 MML agrees that Initiative 65 is not the proper avenue for doing so.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mississippi Municipal League acting by and through its Board of Directors that:

- The MML expresses its strong opposition to Initiative 65;
- The MML encourages its member municipalities to become educated on the Initiative 65 and encourage their citizens to oppose the initiative by voting against amending the Mississippi Constitution and for Alternative Measure No. 65A; and
- This Resolution be spread upon the minutes of the MML and that it be distributed to its member municipalities and to the public throughout the State.

Mayor Gene McGee made a motion to adopt the foregoing resolution that was seconded by Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba.

By a vote of the Board of Directors, the resolution was adopted.

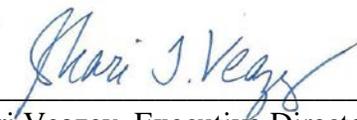
Executed this 1st day as of October, 2020.



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Mayor Billy Hewes, President

Attest:



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Shari Veazey, Executive Director