

**RESOLUTION # 20-14**  
**OPPOSING YOUTH ACCESS TO CANNABIS**  
**THROUGH MARIJUANA STOREFRONTS AND COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION**

**WHEREAS**, The Tamalpais Union High School District (TUHSD) is committed to the successful and positive futures of our youth, and to their health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Cannabis is addictive, particularly for adolescents<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, More teens report using cannabis than tobacco in Marin County <sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, TUHSD 9th and 11th grade students reported increased use of cannabis across six years of California Healthy Kids Survey data from 2012 to 2018<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Cannabis use is harmful to the adolescent brain, affecting the parts of the brain that influence pleasure, memory, thinking, concentration, sensory and time perception, and coordinated movement<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Students who are frequent cannabis users are 60 percent less likely to complete high school, 60 percent less likely to graduate college, and seven times more likely to attempt suicide than non-users<sup>5</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Cannabis use is associated with additional health risks such as respiratory illness, heightened heart attack risk, and immune system suppression<sup>6</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, In August 2019, the U.S. Surgeon General issued a report reviewing THC concentrations found in dispensaries in the U.S., finding average concentrations between 17.7% and 23.2% in plant forms, and between 23.7% and 75.9% THC in concentrated forms. The Surgeon General reported that “the risks of physical dependence, addiction, and other negative consequences increase with exposure to high concentrations of THC and the younger the age of initiation. Higher doses of THC are more likely to produce anxiety, agitation, paranoia, and psychosis”<sup>7</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Cannabis use disorders have increased in all age groups over the past decade, and cannabis accounts for the most adolescent drug treatment admissions in the Nation and in Marin County <sup>8</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, The active ingredient in cannabis is the second most commonly found substance in the blood of impaired drivers – teen and adult<sup>9</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, In Colorado where recreational cannabis was legalized and commercialized in 2013, teen use of cannabis is 43% above the national average, and cannabis-related traffic deaths increased 135% between 2013 to 2019 while all traffic deaths increased only 24% during the same time period<sup>10</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Cannabis tax revenue represented approximately 0.85% of Colorado's FY 2019 budget and 67% of local jurisdictions in Colorado have banned medical and recreational marijuana businesses<sup>10</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, A 2019 Rand Corporation study found young adults who lived in Los Angeles neighborhoods with medical cannabis dispensaries had more frequent use than their peers and a more positive view of the drug<sup>11</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Evidence shows our drug problem is a major public health and safety threat, and commercializing cannabis would increase its availability and normalize its use, leading to increased negative health consequences, particularly among young people<sup>12</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, The District is alarmed by the number of premature deaths and suicides associated with overdoses among our TUHSD community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tamalpais Union High School District supports reducing our youth's access to cannabis through restrictions on cannabis storefronts and commercial cultivation in order to decrease cannabis use by adolescents and the negative consequences to the health and safety that would follow.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Tamalpais Union High School District, by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 (Harlander, Loebbaka, Oppenheim, Roenisch)

Noes: 1 (Saavedra)

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

State of California, County of Marin

I, Karen Loebbaka, Clerk of the Board of Trustees, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution accepted by said Board at a regular meeting held at its regular place of meeting by the vote stated, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.



Karen Loebbaka, Clerk of the Board of Trustees

## **RESOURCES and SOURCES**

1. Research Report Series: Marijuana," National Institute of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse; July 2012. For quick reference, see "Drug Facts: Marijuana": National Institute of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse; January 2014, available at: <http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/marijuana>.
2. California Healthy Kids Survey, <https://chks.wested.org/reports>
3. California Healthy Kids Survey, Tamalpais Union High School District data, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018.
4. Meier, Madeline H., Caspi, Avshalom, *et. al.*, "Persistent Cannabis Users Show Neuropsychological Decline From Childhood to Midlife," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 109 no. 40; October 2, 2012.
5. Silins, Edmund, *et al.*, "Young adult sequelae of adolescent cannabis use: an integrative analysis," *The Lancet Psychiatry*, Volume 1, No. 4, September 2014. Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of American Studies Conclude Marijuana Use Connected to College Failure," March 28, 2013.
6. Marijuana Use: Detrimental to Youth, American College of Pediatricians, September 2015.
7. U.S. Surgeon General's advisory: marijuana use and the developing brain. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services publication, August 29, 2019.
8. Budney, Alan, *et. al.*, "Marijuana Dependence and Its Treatment," *Addiction Science and Clinical Practice*; December 2007.
9. Drug Facts: Drugged Driving," National Institute of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse; October 2013."

10. The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact, Volume 7, Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. September 2020.
11. Associations Between Young Adult Marijuana Outcomes and Availability of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries and Storefront Signage  
[https://www.rand.org/pubs/external\\_publications/EP67909.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP67909.html)
12. The Public Health Consequences of Marijuana Legalization; Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Marijuana Resource Center.