WHEREAS cannabis/marijuana has been used medicinally for centuries, even being prescribed by physicians in the United States until 1937\(^1\); and

WHEREAS “marijuana” prohibition began with the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937\(^1\) not secondary to any public health concerns but rather concerns over the business industry; and

WHEREAS it has been shown that medical marijuana is effective in treating a wide range of symptoms in a variety of conditions including but not limited to control of nausea and vomiting, promotion of weight gain, seizures, painful peripheral neuropathy, and muscle spasticity\(^2,3,4,5\); and

WHEREAS there has not been a reported fatal overdose with cannabis; and

WHEREAS we have read reports, such as the one from the Surgeon General\(^6\), regarding the issues with opioids, yet we still need alternatives to treatment for patients; and

WHEREAS there are several states paving the pathway for the use of medical marijuana who are consistently reporting data regarding patient use and public health concerns\(^7\); and

WHEREAS We being the innovative voices in the medical community should be open minded enough to listen to patients and public health departments in terms of advancing medicine;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Principles Regarding the use of illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco (pp 47-50) be amended by ADDITION to state:

27. In regard to medical marijuana:

a. RECOGNIZES that there is support for the medical use of marijuana and advocates that usage be based on high quality, patient-centered, evidence-based research.
b. RECOGNIZES the need for further studies into the use of medical marijuana and related compounds.

c. BELIEVES that the Food and Drug Administration should change marijuana’s classification for the purpose of facilitating clinical research; this process should also ensure that funding be available for such research.

FISCAL NOTE: None

References


REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE A

DISCUSSION
BOT: Adopt as written.
BRD: N/A
PRD: Recommend to adopt as written
IRD: recommends to adopt as written
ACTE: recommends to adopt as written
Premedical Caucus: N/A
Other Groups: Northeast Ohio Medical University AMSA chapter recommends to adopt as written.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:
PROS: No proposition testimony provided
CONS: No proposition testimony provided
REFERENCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS:
The majority of the regions and caucuses were for this resolution; the majority voted unanimously to adopt as written

REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Adopt as written