Town of _____

Resolution Supporting Municipal Authority in a Commercial Cannabis System

Whereas a regulated and taxed recreational cannabis marketplace will affect communities across Vermont;

Whereas the 2019-2020 VLCT Municipal Policy calls for any legislation legalizing commercial cannabis to address the impacts on municipalities, school populations, first responders, municipal regulations, and budgets;

Whereas states that currently have a commercial cannabis market have guaranteed municipal governments' local regulatory, taxation authority, and revenue sharing, and Vermont cities and towns need, at a minimum, those same guaranteed powers;

Whereas all cannabis establishments that cultivate, process, manufacture or sell cannabis will be wholly located in our cities and towns, and voters in cities and towns must be granted the right to "opt-in" to hosting cannabis establishments within their community;

Whereas all duly adopted ordinances and land use policies and regulations adopted by municipalities pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 and 24 V.S.A. § 2291 must be upheld in any commercial cannabis system;

Whereas local cannabis control commissions must be given the same level of authority as local control commissions that administer licenses and permits for the establishments that furnish alcohol;

Whereas cities and towns must be granted authority to assess licensing and permitting fees for cannabis establishments; and

Whereas all cities and towns that host cannabis establishments should share in a local cannabis tax, not just those with retail establishments generating tax revenues; now, therefore, be it

***Resolved*, by the Town/City of _____,**

1. that the town/city only supports legislation legalizing a taxed and regulated cannabis market that adequately addresses all aforementioned local considerations and concerns;

2. that the town/city supports a local cannabis tax of five-percent, with seventy-percent of the revenues derived from the local cannabis tax retained by the host community of a retail establishment, and thirty-percent pooled and redistributed to municipalities that do not host retail establishments; and

3. that the town/city calls upon the state administration and legislature to provide communities adequate time and clarity in law for local officials and community members to discuss the local implications of such a market, and to update, clarify and establish local regulations and policies accordingly.

_____ _____

Chair of the _____ Selectboard/City Council Date