R028-0708

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING WINNING THE WAR ON DRUGS

WHEREAS: In the year 2000 over 600,000 people were arrested for the non-violent use of marijuana; and,

WHEREAS: This figure represents about 40% of all drug arrests; and,

WHEREAS: Since the implementation of mandatory sentencing laws in 1986, the budget of the Federal Bureau of Prisons has risen 135% due to increased load of prisoners that they received; and,

WHEREAS: Numerous studies have shown the medical efficacy of marijuana as a painkiller, while likewise demonstrating the lack of negative effects of marijuana from continued long-term use; and,

WHEREAS: In the course of human history, no death has been attributed directly to the use of marijuana, compared to numereous annual deaths attributed to legalized drugs such as alcohol, nicotine, and aspirin.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the United States Congress to legalize the sale of marijuana by government approved sources; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the United States that the United States Congress allows for the public consumption of marijuana without criminal penalty.

MANDATES: Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
Steny Hoyer, House Majority Leader
John Boehner, House Minority Leader
Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader
Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader

SPONSORS:
Matt Emery, McDaniel College