

ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Alameda, California
Resolution

September 26, 2017

Resolution No. 2017-2018.14

Resolution Supporting the Need for Safeguards Regarding Cannabis Regulation in Alameda

WHEREAS, The Alameda Board of Education is committed to Alameda Unified School District's vision of serving a diverse community of students in an inclusive, safe, and secure environment; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education is also committed to safeguarding the wellness of all students, having established policies by which staff work to ensure well-being of the students AUSD serves; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda City Council is currently considering local ordinances regarding the regulation of distribution, production, and sale of medicinal and recreational cannabis per California state law; and

WHEREAS, in its clinical report entitled "Counseling Parents and Teens About Marijuana Use in the Era of Legalization of Marijuana" (March 2017), the American Academy of Pediatrics has documented numerous published findings indicating that cannabis use has harmful effects on adolescents and youth, citing a host of recent medical and scientific research studies to evidence these claims; and

WHEREAS, in this report, the American Academy of Pediatrics references longitudinal studies that link marijuana to negative effects on intellectual function and higher rates of mental health disorders such as addiction, depression, and psychosis; and

WHEREAS, in its publication entitled "Marijuana and Tobacco Use" (May 2017), the California Department of Public Health cites research showing that the highest rates of past month marijuana use among adolescents aged 12 to 17 were in states or jurisdictions that had legalized commercial marijuana and that nationally the perceived risk of harm associated with marijuana use by adolescents is decreasing while the daily use of marijuana is increasing among high school students; and

WHEREAS, in this report, the California Department of Public Health also cited research findings indicating that early marijuana use is associated not only with impaired school performance but also with an increased likelihood of students dropping out of high school; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that the Alameda community would benefit from regulations like those in San Francisco and San Jose where municipal codes exist to ensure that cannabis businesses or dispensaries are located no closer than 1000 feet from schools, ~~parks~~, or child care centers; and

WHEREAS, Alameda Unified School District is committed to actively supporting its students with wellness education and harm reduction counseling to address the harmful effects of cannabis on youth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda Board of Education respectfully requests that all these considerations be taken into account by the Alameda community and its elected officials so that the wellness of Alameda youth can be protected and safeguarded:

- The Board of Education hereby respectfully requests that any cannabis business or dispensary in Alameda be located no closer than 1000 feet from any Alameda school, ~~park~~, or AUSD child care center.
- The Board of Education hereby respectfully requests that local tax revenue from City of Alameda cannabis regulation be set aside annually for AUSD use to fund the provision of counseling and education required to address the potential increase of cannabis use in students that may arise because of the pending regulation of cannabis distribution, production, and sales in Alameda.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote this 26th day of September, 2017.

AYES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

NOES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT: _____ MEMBERS: _____

Gary K. Lym, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: _____

Sean McPhetridge, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California