

**CITY OF NEWPORT**

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
COUNCIL**

**No. \_\_\_\_\_**

- WHEREAS, the City of Newport does not regulate the sale of marijuana by a business through its Zoning Ordinance as a use other than to treat the sale of the same as a retail use allowed by right in the Limited Business, General Business, Waterfront Business and Commercial Industrial districts; and
- WHEREAS, establishments selling marijuana could locate in Newport if a so-called Compassion Center dispensing medical marijuana license is issued for the East Bay/Newport County area or if the use and possession of marijuana is legalized; and
- WHEREAS, the experience of communities such as Fall River, Massachusetts, which have establishments selling or dispensing marijuana has shown serious issues with respect to traffic and parking which have adversely impacted surrounding areas and neighborhoods requiring the need for police intervention to control the same; and
- WHEREAS, because Newport's business zones are mostly built out and adjacent to residential areas, it is probable that any establishment located in Newport selling or dispensing marijuana will have similar traffic and parking issues and similar adverse impacts on surrounding neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Newport's present Zoning Ordinances do not appear to properly regulate the traffic and parking issues which are expected with such uses and it is reasonably necessary in order to protect the public health, safety and general welfare to maintain the present status quo of not having such use in the City of Newport in order for the City to further study and plan for the potential for such uses in Newport. NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED: that the City of Newport impose a six-month moratorium on any retail use which includes the sale or dispensing of marijuana so that the City can properly determine the extent of the need to update its Zoning Ordinances to properly plan for such uses.

LYNN U. CEGLIE  
JEANNE MARIE NAPOLITANO  
KATHRYN E. LEONARD  
JUSTIN S. MCLAUGHLIN

IN COUNCIL  
READ AND PASSED

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Laura C. Swistak  
City Clerk