

THE CITY OF NEWPORT

**RESOLUTION**

**OF THE**

**COUNCIL**

**No.**

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has enacted into law Chapter 21-28.11 of the General Laws of Rhode Island which is known and cited as the Rhode Island Cannabis Act (the Act);

WHEREAS, the Act allows for the legal cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and retail sale of adult recreational use cannabis in the State of Rhode Island;

WHEREAS, Section 21-28.11-15 of the Act gives municipalities by way of a resolution of the City or Town Council the option to put before the electorate a question on the November 8, 2022 ballot as to whether cannabis related licenses shall be allowed to be issued within the municipality with cannabis related licenses including licenses for cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and/or retail sale;

WHEREAS, the Act requires the ballot question to be framed as follows:

“Shall cannabis licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use cannabis be issued in the City of Newport?”;

WHEREAS, upon the adoption of such a resolution by the Newport City Council, no cannabis related licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and/or for the retail sale of cannabis will be issued until the electors of the City of Newport vote to approve such licenses;

WHEREAS, if a majority of the ballots cast by the electors of the City of Newport indicates their choice is against issuing any such license, then no license relating to the sale of recreational cannabis will be issued within the City of Newport;

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the issue of whether licenses relating to the sale of recreational cannabis should be issued within the City of Newport should be left for the electors of the City of Newport to decide.

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED: the Council directs that the following referendum be placed on the November 8, 2022 ballot:

“Shall cannabis licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use cannabis be issued in the City of Newport?”

JEANNE MARIE NAPOLITANO  
LYNN UNDERWOOD CEGLIE

IN COUNCIL  
READ AND PASSED

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LAURA C. SWISTAK  
CITY CLERK