

SUBJECT: MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL USE

SUBMITTED BY: Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association (IOMA)

REFERRED TO: Committee on Public Affairs

1 WHEREAS, marijuana is considered a Schedule I substance by the Drug Enforcement Agency
2 (DEA); and

3 WHEREAS, the DEA's position is that there is no medical proof that smoked marijuana has
4 any medical benefit to its users; and

5 WHEREAS, smoked marijuana may produce significant health care risks not only to the users
6 of the product but also to persons exposed to second hand smoke from this product;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had never approved any drug that
9 requires smoking as a therapeutic agent because of its uneven absorption and lack of
10 control of effective components; and

11 WHEREAS, in order for smoked marijuana to be considered a medicinal substance indicated
12 for medical conditions, it must have a body of scientific evidence demonstrating
13 effectiveness and safety; and

14 WHEREAS, evidence for smoked marijuana's medical benefit is not present; now, therefore be
15 it

16 RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) support the medical use of
17 smoked marijuana only after scientific evidence is clearly demonstrated and shows
18 equivalent or superior results to other therapeutic agents approved by the Drug
19 Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and, be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, that the AOA encourage appropriate entities to conduct scientifically valid
22 clinical trials to determine the benefits, side effects, and complications of the use of
23 smoked marijuana.

ACTION TAKEN _____

DATE _____