

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 205,
THE REGULATION AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA ACT**

WHEREAS the 2016 Democratic Party Platform calls for a “reasoned pathway for future legalization;” and

WHEREAS marijuana prohibition has needlessly damaged the lives of countless Arizonans, disproportionately people of color, but failed to eliminate the supply of or demand for marijuana; and

WHEREAS existing prohibition policies have failed to keep marijuana away from youth; and

WHEREAS data shows states that have regulated marijuana have not seen an increase in teen use; and

WHEREAS marijuana is objectively less toxic, less addictive, less harmful to the body, and less likely to contribute to violent and reckless behavior than alcohol; and

WHEREAS Proposition 205, The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act will:

Replace the criminal market with a regulated market in which licensed businesses produce and sell marijuana for use by adults age 21 and older; and

Create rules governing the testing, labeling, and packaging of marijuana, as well as restrictions on marketing and advertising; and

Shift marijuana sales off of the streets and into tightly controlled retail stores that are required to ask customers for proof of age and only sell to adults; and

Generate more than \$120 million in annual tax revenue, including more than \$55 million per year for K-12 education and nearly \$14 million per year for public health programs; and

Foster new companies that create good jobs and utilize the products and services of other local businesses; and

Allow law enforcement officials to spend more time addressing serious crimes instead of arresting and prosecuting adults for marijuana possession; and

Protect employers' rights to maintain drug-free workplaces and the rights of property owners and landlords to prohibit marijuana from being grown on their property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona Democratic Party endorses Proposition 205, The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act.

Submitted by:

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