RESOLUTION NO. ______

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY,
WASHINGTON, SUPPORTING CLASSIFICATION OF CANNABIS AS A
SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND REQUESTING
ACTION BY THE WASHINGTON STATE CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION TO GRANT TO THE STATES THE RIGHT TO ENACT
MEDICAL CANNABIS LAWS

WHEREAS, Currently, cannabis remains classified federally as a Schedule I
controlled substance, in the same category as heroin, ecstasy and LSD, and

WHEREAS, Classification of cannabis as a Schedule I controlled substance makes it
very difficult to conduct legal medical testing on the drug in the United States, as it can only
be done with a permit from the federal government, which has historically been loathe to
give them out; and

WHEREAS, Reducing federal classification of cannabis even just to Schedule II -- the
same class as cocaine, methadone, oxycodone and morphine -- would allow for more
testing on the medical effects of cannabis, medical proponents argue, and

WHEREAS, The City of Langley is responsible for upholding the laws of our
community, state and federal government, we need resolution regarding the legality of
medical cannabis. We are caught in the middle of the desire expressed by the residents of
our state to see cannabis available for medical use and the federal government's absolute
inflexibility in regards to the medical benefits of cannabis. It is an untenable situation for
our communities and has cost our cities significant time and resources to address; and

WHEREAS, Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have laws legalizing medical
cannabis. However, the laws conflict with the federal statute which has led to raids and
threats to shut down medical cannabis operations, to include the threat of the arrest and
prosecution of local governmental employees and members of the governing legislative
bodies; and

WHEREAS, 18 States initiated legislation in 2012 to legalize Medical Cannabis;

WHEREAS, The American Medical Association has urged that marijuana's status as a
federal Schedule I controlled substance be changed to a Schedule II; and

WHEREAS, We sympathize with patients suffering from serious medical conditions
who could benefit from medical use of cannabis and do not have a safe and consistent
source of the drug. The divergence in state and federal law creates a situation where there
is no regulated and safe system to supply legitimate patients who may need medical
cannabis; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington has petitioned the Drug
Enforcement Administration to reclassify cannabis as a Schedule II drug and provided
substantiated peer-reviewed scientific evidence to support the reclassification; and
WHEREAS, The federal government could quickly solve the issue if it reclassified cannabis for medical use as a Schedule II drug, based upon the substantiated peer-reviewed scientific evidence included in the Governor's petition;

WHEREAS, The solution to this national problem lies with the agencies of federal government and the Congress and the President of the United;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The City of Langley Council urges the Drug Enforcement Administration to expedite the petition to reclassify medicinal cannabis and to immediately initiate rulemaking proceedings to reclassify medical cannabis as a Schedule II drug so qualifying patients who follow state law may obtain the medication they need through the traditional and safe method of physician prescribing and pharmacy dispensing; and

The City of Langley Council urges the Congressional delegation of Washington State to initiate and support legislation to clearly and unequivocally grant states the right and authority to adopt medical cannabis laws for patients suffering from serious medical conditions who could benefit from medical use of cannabis and do not have a safe and consistent source of the drug without threat of arrest or prosecution by agents of the United States government.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY, and APPROVED by the Mayor at a regular meeting held this ___ day of ________, 2012.

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ATTEST: LARRY KWARSICK, Mayor

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DEBBIE L. MAHLER, Director of Finance/Clerk