



Resolution on Restricting Marijuana and Hemp Products
Submitted by Virginia Galloway, Messenger from Church at the Ridge, Hiram, GA

WHEREAS, Georgia is witnessing the fastest shift in marijuana availability in its history; and

WHEREAS, unregulated high potency hemp derivatives expose Georgians - including children- to highly potent, psychoactive tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and even regulated hemp consumables with THC under 0.3% are intoxicating with health and safety ramifications; and

WHEREAS, increased access to THC contributes to the growing ease with which individuals -especially youth- can develop cannabis use disorder, a form of addiction marked by impaired functioning and susceptibility to dependence; and

WHEREAS, rapid expansion of medical access to marijuana is outpacing FDA review, medical association support, and traditional doctor-patient safeguards; and

WHEREAS, commercial legalization of recreational marijuana has not eliminated the illicit market and has introduced new public health burdens; and

WHEREAS, current social normalization of marijuana makes high-potency THC products easily accessible to minors despite well documented harm to youth brain development and IQ; and

WHEREAS, marijuana impairs critical driving skills, while Georgia lacks adequate testing and reporting to deter and track drug-impaired driving; and

WHEREAS, hemp derived high THC products can lead to traffic deaths, addiction, violence, and psychotic episodes; and

WHEREAS, marijuana use undermines labor-force reliability and increases employers' legal exposure in safety-sensitive industries; and

WHEREAS, THC readily crosses the placenta and into breast milk, yet retail staff without medical training routinely recommend marijuana for pregnant mothers dealing with morning sickness; and

WHEREAS, replacing misdemeanor penalties for minor possession with civil fines removes the legal leverage courts can use to steer individuals into underutilized education and treatment programs - missing a critical opportunity for early intervention; and

WHEREAS, the ripple effects of marijuana misuse do not fall only on the user, but disrupt the family system — weakening marriages, reducing parental capacity, and placing children at elevated risk of harm and instability; and



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers of the Georgia Baptist Convention meeting at First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, November 10-11, 2025, urge the members of the Georgia General Assembly to always be in favor of imposing greater restrictions on the use of all marijuana and hemp products in the State of Georgia; and

BE IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that it be known that one of the greatest evidences of loving God and loving your neighbor is caring about the public health and safety of all our citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Georgia laws should limit the total amount of THC and other intoxicating cannabinoids — including intoxicating hemp products (e.g. gummies, vapes) — to levels that will not get people high; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Georgia should close the loophole in our law that allows products with dangerously high levels of hemp derived THC (such as delta 8) to be sold or given to anyone of any age; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we educate our churches and all Georgians about the lack of responsible regulations on these types of marijuana and hemp products can result in a de facto form of recreational marijuana in our state; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Georgia's Governor and the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House and the sitting state senators and representatives who represent the people of Georgia.