

**American Cannabis Nurses Association
Resolution Regarding
Cannabis and the Human Endocannabinoid System: Education for Every Nurse (001.2017)**

WHEREAS, the discovery of the human endogenous cannabinoid system (ECS) occurred in the mid-1990s; and,

WHEREAS, there is an expanding knowledge base regarding the importance of the ECS and the benefits of cannabinoids to support homeostasis, and,

WHEREAS, U.S. citizens are currently using cannabis legally as medicine in at least 28 states; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of nursing textbooks and continuing education materials do not provide information regarding the endocannabinoid system; and,

WHEREAS, nurses are seeking evidence-based education for the purpose of adequately supporting patients' use of therapeutic cannabis; and,

WHEREAS, nurses are ethically bound to advocate for all patients in need of healing as per the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics For Nurses and the following Provisions: 1.1 Respect for Human Dignity, 1.4 The Right to Self-Determination, 2.2 Primacy of Patient's Interests, 8.3 Obligation to Advance Health and Human Dignity, and Reduce Disparities; and,

WHEREAS, per the American Nurses Association all nurses are educated with the goal in helping patients to achieve, retain or restore health, or to experience a dignified death; and,

WHEREAS nurses have the right to a safe pathway to accessing cannabis information and education, without fear of stigma or reprisal from employers, licensing agencies, or other healthcare providers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Cannabis Nurses Association calls on all pre-and post licensure academic nursing programs to provide evidence-based cannabis education regarding the endocannabinoid system and therapeutic cannabis management to all future and current nurses; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the American Cannabis Nurses Association calls for evidence-based cannabis education to be made available to all practicing nurses and healthcare providers to support nurses' competency with the endocannabinoid system and the entourage effect of whole plant cannabis medicine.

Submitted by: Education and Research Committee 1/11/17

Action taken: *Approved 1/24/17*

www.americancannabisnursesassociation.org