**OHIO STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**Resolution No. 20 – 2025**

**Introduced by:** OSMA Resident and Fellows Section

**Subject:** Mandating Child-Proof Packaging on Marijuana Products Sold Legally in the State of Ohio

**Referred to:** Resolutions Committee No. 1

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**WHEREAS**, HB 523 (2016)[1] was approved by legislature, signed by governor 6/8/16 with Issue 2 enacted by voters Nov. 7, 2023, making Ohio the 24th state to legalize adult use of non-medical cannabis [2]; and

**WHEREAS**, literature shows that marijuana consumption in pediatric patients acutely lead to central nervous system depression, ocular exam abnormalities, ataxia, seizures, vomiting, fever, dehydration, cardiac effects, and changes in respiration and oxygenation with severe cases causing coma, respiratory depression, and requiring intubation with resolution of symptoms ranging from hours to days[3-6]; and

**WHEREAS**, states with legalized recreational marijuana have seen an increase in regional poison control center reports of pediatric marijuana exposure and pediatric marijuana-related visits to emergency departments, urgent care centers, and hospital inpatient units[7-8]; and

**WHEREAS**, edible marijuana products are sold as brownies, cookies and candies, which are palatable to children and the prevalence of unintentional edible cannabis exposures are increasing more than non-edible cannabis exposures especially in children under five years old with literature showing adult preference for edible marijuana gummies[9-10] ; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Poison Data System confirms 7043 pediatric exposures to edible cannabis products in children <6 years old and a 1375% increase in pediatric exposures from 2017 to 2021[10]; and

**WHEREAS**, the most common site of exposure was a residential setting, 6842 cases (97.1%), with 6391 (90.7%) occurring in the child's own residence[10]; and

**WHEREAS**, pediatric patients are often unable to confirm marijuana ingestion, and the non-specific effects of THC delay toxicology screening and these patients often endure costly, non-productive testing and interventions such as computerized tomography scans, lumbar punctures, and administration of prophylactic antibiotics and naloxone[6]

**RESOLVED**, our Ohio State Medical Association advocate for legislation or regulation mandating all cannabinoid products sold legally by licensed marijuana dispensaries in the State of Ohio be sold to consumers in child-resistant packaging; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, and be it further resolved that our Ohio State Medical Association advocate for a database of cannabinoid positive screenings in children under age 18 be established in the state of Ohio to establish trends in marijuana use and accidental ingestion.

**Fiscal Note:** $ 50,000 (Sponsor)
$ 50,000 (Staff)

**References:**


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