

RESOLUTION NO. 2

CANNABIS

1 WHEREAS, the Maryland General Assembly passed House Bill 881 in 2014, which
2 established the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission (MMCC) and legalized cannabis for
3 medical use in the State of Maryland; and

4 WHEREAS, Maryland voters approved a ballot referendum in the 2022 General Election,
5 which established and legalized cannabis for recreational use in the State of Maryland; and

6 WHEREAS, research indicates the use of cannabis for either medical and/or recreational
7 purposes have shown tremendous benefits on health and well-being, including but not limited to;
8 pain relief, cancer treatment, treatment of sleep dysrhythmias, treatment of substance abuse, post-
9 traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD), and many other benefits both known and unknown; and

10 WHEREAS, firefighters tend to have a higher rate than the general population in
11 incidences of pain, cancer, sleep dysrhythmias, substance abuse, PTSD, and other medical and
12 physical ailments that can be treated or eased through the use of medical and/or recreational
13 cannabis; and

14 WHEREAS, firefighters could benefit from the use of medical and/or recreational cannabis
15 in treating these ailments when not prohibited from doing so by their employers; and

16 WHEREAS, the majority, if not all, of the IAFF locals in this State have no protection from
17 adverse employment action incurred due to the use of medical and/or recreational cannabis, such
18 action that may include suspension, demotion, and/or dismissal; and

19 WHEREAS, other State Legislatures have enacted legislation that protects employees from
20 discrimination in employment due to their off-duty cannabis use; and

21 WHEREAS, other State Legislatures have enacted legislation that bans employers from
22 the use of drug testing employees using nonpsychoactive cannabinoid metabolite testing due to
23 the non-scientific nature of such testing and the unreliability of the results,

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24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland IAFF
25 A-19 shall pursue a course of action through legislation and/or regulation that would provide for
26 firefighters in the State of Maryland to be protected from discrimination in their employment due
27 to off-duty cannabis use; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, hat the Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland IAFF A-19
29 shall pursue a course of action through legislation and/or regulation that would ban the use of
30 urinalysis testing that utilizes nonpsychoactive cannabinoid metabolites to test for cannabis
31 intoxication.

Submitted by	IAFF Local 964 Baltimore Fire Officers
Cost Estimate	None
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	Favorable
CONVENTION ACTION	Adopted as Revised