Resolution 2022-10-26 Authorizing the Operation Of Medical Cannabis Dispensing Sites Within Unincorporated Areas of the County

WHEREAS, during the 2021 Regular Session of the Alabama legislature, Act 2021-450 was enacted and codified in Title 20 2A, Code of Alabama 1975, to create within Alabama a wholly interstate system of the cultivation, processing, and distribution of medical cannabis; and

WHEREAS, Act 2021-450 defines a "dispensary" as an entity licensed by the Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission to dispense and sell medical cannabis at the dispensing sites to registered, qualified patients and registered caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Act 2021-450 defines an "integrated facility" as an entity licensed to perform the functions of a cultivator, processor, secure transporter, and dispensary; and

WHEREAS, Act 2021-450 defines a "dispensing site" as a site operated by a dispensary licensee or an integrated facility licensee; and

WHEREAS, Act 2021-450 states that a dispensary licensee or integrated facility licensee may not operate a dispensing site in an unincorporated area of the county unless the county commission has authorized, by resolution, the operation of dispensing sites within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Act 2021-450 states that a program providing for the administration of cannabis derivatives for medical use in this state will not only benefit patients by providing relief from pain and other debilitating symptoms but will also provide opportunities for patients with debilitating conditions to function and have a better quality of life and provide employment and business opportunities for farmers.

WHEREAS, the Russell County Commission believes it is in the public's interest to authorize the operation of dispensing sites within the unincorporated areas of the county;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RUSSELL COUNTY COMMISSION that it does hereby authorize the operation of medical cannabis dispensing sites by dispensary licensees and integrated facility licensees within the unincorporated areas of the county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission within seven calendar days of this resolution being adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Russell County Commission has caused this resolution to be executed in its name and on behalf by its chairman on this the 26th day of October, 2022.

Chairman, Russell County Commission