

WARNING: Every person who knowingly signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, signs more than one of these petitions relating to the same initiative measure, signs this petition when he or she is not a qualified elector or makes any false statement on this petition may be punished by fine, imprisonment, or both.

• **PETITION FOR INITIATIVE MEASURE** •
TO AMEND THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION

TO THE HONORABLE DELBERT HOSEMANN, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

We, the undersigned citizens and qualified electors of the State of Mississippi, respectfully direct that this petition and the proposed measure known as **Initiative Measure No. 48**, entitled **Should the use, cultivation and sale of cannabis and industrial hemp be legalized for persons 21 years or older?**

a full, true and correct copy of which is printed or attached to this petition, be transmitted to the Legislature of the State of Mississippi at its next ensuing regular session, and we respectfully petition the Legislature to adopt the proposed measure; and each of us for himself or herself says: "I have personally signed this petition, I am a qualified elector of the State of Mississippi in the city (or town), county, and congressional district written after my name, my residence address is correctly stated and I have knowingly signed this petition only once."

Ballot Summary

Initiative Measure No. 48 would legalize the use, cultivation and sale of cannabis and industrial hemp. Cannabis related crimes would be punished in a manner similar to, or to a lesser degree, than alcohol related crimes. Cannabis sales would be taxed 7%. Cannabis sold for medical purposes and industrial hemp would be exempt from taxation. The Governor would be required to pardon persons convicted of non violent cannabis crimes against the State of Mississippi.

SIGNATURE <i>(include middle initial)</i>	STREET ADDRESS CITY/TOWN	COUNTY	PRINTED NAME <i>(include middle initial)</i>	DATE SIGNED	Precinct	Cong. Dist.
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CERTIFICATE OF PETITION CIRCULATOR:

INSTRUCTIONS: Petition circulators must sign and complete all blanks.

I hereby certify that I am a resident of the State of Mississippi during the time at which this petition is being circulated.

Signature of Circulator: _____
 Current physical address: _____
 Current telephone number: _____

Printed name: _____
 City, State and Zip: _____
 Date signed: _____

HERE IS THE ENTIRE BALLOT INITIATIVE #48

MISSISSIPPI'S CONSTITUTION SHALL BE AMENDED TO ADD:

ARTICLE 15, SECTION 286, AND ARTICLE FIVE, SECTION 124-A.

ARTICLE 15, SECTION 286: The people of Mississippi declare an end to the prohibition on cannabis, and fully legalize the use, taxation (if applicable), medical use, cultivation and sale of both industrial hemp, and cannabis (as defined by the Federal Government), only for adults who are 21 years or older. Cannabis farmers growing plants that exceed Federal Government THC levels for industrial hemp must secure their crops from unauthorized harvesting. Cannabis, with THC levels exceeding those of industrial hemp will be regulated like alcohol no later than 240 days from enactment. Regulations will require an annual Mississippi Cannabis Sales license issued by any Mississippi County Circuit Clerk for a fee of no more than \$1000.00 to all adult residents who apply, and a \$25.00 annual city or county governing locality fee to farm 10 - 500 plants. Locality fees for cannabis farms with more than 500 plants will not exceed \$1000.00. A Mississippi sales tax of 7% will be collected upon every sale, except sales for cannabis sold for medicinal purposes and for industrial hemp which will be exempt from taxation. Sales License Fees and annual locality fees are to be retained by the locality. Owners of 9 or fewer cannabis plants are not considered farmers and are not required to pay a farming locality fee. The 7% cannabis sales tax, and the farming locality fees may be reviewed in 2025 and every 5 years thereafter. The cannabis sales tax can only be lowered; farming locality fees may be adjusted but only by 10%. All 7% sales taxes collected shall benefit Mississippi public schools until 2020 when the distribution of funds may be reviewed. Cannabis-related crimes may be punished in a manner similar to, or to a lesser degree, than alcohol-related crimes. The legislature shall add a process for expunging the criminal record of any person convicted of non-violent cannabis possession, sales and manufacture against the State of Mississippi. Industrial hemp shall be regulated by the Dept. of Agriculture. The Dept. of Health shall be responsible for a state-wide dispensary program and begin the issuing of identification for medicinal cannabis patients within 180 days from enactment. The Chancery Courts of this state shall have the power to enforce this section with injunctive relief.

ARTICLE FIVE, SECTION 124-A: The Governor shall pardon persons convicted of non-violent cannabis violations against the State of Mississippi, both prior and current, within 60 days of receipt of their written request, as long as they meet the qualifications. The Chancery Courts of this state shall have the power to enforce this section with injunctive relief.

Amount and Source of Revenue Required to Implement Ballot Initiative:

The estimated gross income from the 7% cannabis sales tax is \$17 million dollars for the first 7 months of sales.

INTENT: It is the intent of this Amendment to the Mississippi Constitution to legalize the use, cultivation and sale of cannabis and industrial hemp for adults and regulate it like alcohol. Mississippi will be forgiving.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE CIRCULATING PETITIONS:

1. When duplicated, **this Mississippi #bi48 petition must be copied onto both sides of legal sized paper.** It must not be minimized to fit onto letter sized paper, because if it is, all of the signatures will be rejected by the Circuit Clerk. If you don't have legal paper, email it or copy it onto a thumb drive and take it to a printer. You must follow all directions on the front page. This petition can be downloaded at www.MississippiForCannabis.org
2. Only Mississippi registered voters are to *legibly* fill out and sign this petition, (and only once) using BLACK ink pens and **using the same name and address listed on their current voter registration card.** Circuit Clerks keep a record of who signs a petition and reject duplicate signatures, and signatures from people who are NOT registered to vote. **Go register to vote before you sign this petition or your signature will be rejected.**
3. Separate petition pages must be used for petition signers who live in different counties.
4. Petition signers may not sign the name of any person other than themselves onto this petition.
5. As soon as a petition is completed it is to be turned in to the Mississippi Circuit Clerk in the County where the petition signer(s) live. Once the Circuit Clerk certifies the signatures, the form will be forwarded to the ballot initiative sponsor to be handed in as a single unit of no less than 107,216 certified signatures with a \$500 fee. A minimum of 21,433 signatures must be collected and certified from all 5 districts. If 1 district fails to collect the required minimum, then the entire ballot initiative will fail, overages cannot be transferred.
6. Petitions do not need to be full of legible signatures to be turned in. (i.e. you don't have to have all 10 signatures in order to turn in a petition to your County Circuit Clerk for certification. It can just have one signature.)
7. Petition signers who live in the following split counties, need to check which district they live in because Mississippi has 5 districts (only for a ballot initiative process). 11 counties are split into different ballot initiative districts: Adams (2 & 4), Attala (2 & 3), Grenada (1 & 2), Hinds (2 & 4), Jones (3 & 4), Leake (2 & 3), Madison (2 & 3), Montgomery (1 & 2), Panola (1 & 2), Tallahatchie (1 & 2), Wayne (3 & 5). **Please try to CORRECTLY indicate your precinct and district (the last 2 boxes) or leave them blank for the Circuit Clerk to determine.**
8. Read and obey the relevant laws in the Mississippi Code of 1972 (Ann) section 23, Chapter 17, which can be reviewed on line at <http://michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?templates&fn+main-h.htm&cp=>
9. Please email KellitaJ@aol.com with the county name and number of signatures you turned in so we can keep a tally of how we are doing. **We are trying to complete the ballot initiative process before the August 4, 2015 statewide primary elections.** Include your phone number & email in the margins if you want to be contacted.
10. All expenses associated with ballot initiative #48 must be reported to the SOS, please email KellitaJ@aol.com to declare any monies you spend on this initiative for our monthly report.

Ballot Initiative Sponsor: Mrs. Kelly Jacobs, 3985 Robertson Gin Road, Hernando, MS 38632. Phone: 662-429-4412
Email: KellitaJ@aol.com
Supportive Web page: <http://www.MississippiForCannabis.org>
Supportive Twitter: @Cannabis4MS Supportive FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/YesOnProposition48/>