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## DIGEST

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HB 546 Original

2020 Regular Session

James

**Abstract:** Authorizes a proposition election to determine if the possession, distribution, or dispensing of marijuana should be decriminalized.

Present law provides for the regulation of controlled dangerous substances, and prohibits the possession, distribution, dispensing, or possession with intent to distribute or dispense marijuana.

Proposed law provides for a proposition election to be held on Nov. 3, 2020, to determine whether the possession, distribution, or dispensing of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinols, or chemical derivatives thereof by persons 21 years of age or older should no longer be a criminal offense in the state of La.

Proposed law provides that if a majority of the electors approve the proposition, then the possession, distribution, or dispensing of marijuana by persons 21 years of age or older shall no longer be a criminal offense. If the electors do not approve the proposition, then marijuana remains illegal as provided for in present law.

(Amends R.S. 40:966(B)(2)(intro. para.) and (D)(1); Adds R.S. 40:989.4; Repeals R.S. 40:964(Schedule I)(C)(19) and 966(C)(2) and (F))