

## RESOLUTION

Subject: Cannabis Product Packaging  
Submitted by: Michael Kuduk, MD (KMA Immediate Past President)  
Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, the legalization of medical cannabis in the Commonwealth has resulted in the wider distribution of products containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC); and

WHEREAS, some of these preparations are in the form of gummies or other items that resemble candy, increasing their appeal to children; and

WHEREAS, a 2023 study published in *Pediatrics* reported a 1,375% increase in the number of pediatric THC exposures and ingestions between 2017 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, both children's hospitals in Kentucky are experiencing an increase in hospitalizations due to pediatric THC ingestion, with some cases resulting in critical illness; and

WHEREAS, unintentional pediatric exposures to THC disproportionately affect children in households with limited access to secure storage or public health education; and

WHEREAS, THC edibles are often marketed with flavors, colors, and packaging that resemble popular candies, increasing the risk of accidental ingestion by children; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky regulations require child-resistant, tamper-evident, opaque, and non-appealing packaging for THC products to reduce pediatric exposure and accidental ingestion; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that KMA support enforcement and public awareness of existing state packaging regulations to ensure compliance and protect children; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA advocate for public education campaigns and data collection on pediatric cannabis exposures to inform future prevention strategies.

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**References:**

1. Tweet, M. S., Nemanich, A., & Wahl, M. (2023). Pediatric edible cannabis exposures and acute toxicity: 2017–2021. *Pediatrics*, 151(2), e2022057761. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2022-057761>
2. Ramsey, S. (2025, July 16). Cannabis-related emergency department visits climb in Kentucky, especially among youth. Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center.
3. Mannering, M. (2024, March 11). KY poison control sees increase in kids ingesting medicated gummies. LEX18 News.
4. Kentucky Administrative Regulations. (n.d.). 915 KAR 1:100. Packaging and labelling of medical cannabis. <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/915/001/100.pdf>