Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014 Submission 168

I have been hearing about Australia legalising medical marijuana for a while now from people spreading rumours to government and police opinion. I am incredibly pleased to hear bills have been drafted etc. I have now been told I can contact this email to share my thought /stories about cannabis. I will be the first to admit I smoke a fair bit and in the public eye it would look like I'm just another drug addict, I first tried marijuana in highschool (like most kids do) back then I didn't think much of it. I was diagnosed with severe depression at the age of 12 and put on a course of antidepressants over the years my condition began to deteriorate I was becoming more and more isolated from the outside world around the age of 16 ld had enough of everyone and everything this world has to offer, so I attempted what many people would refer to as the unthinkable (but anyone in my position knows that it's really not that wild leap of the imagination to kill themselves when you haven't been able to feel happy for the majority of your life) after two weeks in hospital I returned home only to attempt suicide again a week later this continued for another year, by the age of 18 I had been off the antidepressants for over a year and I was still not improving (this thought came after the discovery that the pharmaceutical drugs had been making my condition worse. I began regularly smoking cannabis still not really thinking much of it other than it got me high and didn't make me feel as bad the next day as alcohol did ,it was around 19 that I had noticed the difference that regular smoking had been making to my overall mental health not just the depression but my social anxiety aswell, since then I haven't had a single suicide attempt the depression has left me alone, both my doctor and psychologist have thrown they're support behind my self medicating, there has been no negative change to my body or mind. This brings me to the biggest problem facing self medicating pot smokers, first problem is supply a lot of the time u have to call several people and they can't help you out, so that then takes u to more dealers that u may or may not know and at the end of the day u end up getting it off someone u don't know and u have no idea wats in it, the biggest danger in this is the additives that many growers add to the water to make they're plants grow a certain way etc, some resort to spraying the buds with fly spray so that they weigh more, this presents all kinds of health risks.

I would like u to consider all of this when making final decisions oils won't be enough some of us need the relief that smoking the buds provides

Tanks for your time