

Medicinal Cannabis Submission

Dear Sir/Madam

I'm writing on behalf of Joynt Venture urging the Senate to support – Regulator of Medicinally cannabis Bill 2014. We are small store with 37 yrs. experience in the industry. As people become educated and the Medicinal properties of Cannabis comes to light internationally more and more people suffering from painful and debilitating conditions are coming to me a Retail manager asking for medical advice because the current medical system is failing people. With the access of the internet people are re learning the healing properties of Cannabis and the list of illnesses and ailments that it can treat makes it the most useful medicinal plant on the planet. I simply ask that we the people of Australia be treated like Adults and allowed to make informed educated choices as to alternative treatment options without fear of criminal convictions.

Medicinal Uses

Below is a list of many of the conditions that are being be treated with Cannabis where it's legal. Some provide a far superior cure/relief than the current legal medicines, some equal and some less. Each Patient will react differently some will be more effective but choice should be will the affected individual.

Acute Gastritis, Adenomyosis, Alzheimer's, Amyloidosis, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Anaphylactic or Reaction, Angelman Syndrome, Anorexia, Arthritis, Arthropathy (Gout), Asperger Disorder, Asthma, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Autism, Back Pain, Bell's Palsy, Bipolar Disorder, Bruxism, Bulemia, Cachexia, Cancer, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Cerebral Aneurysm, CFS, Chronic Pain, Cluster Headaches, CMT Disease, Colitis, Colitis/Ulcerative Colitis, Colon Diverticulitis, Crohn's disease, CVS, Cystic Fibrosis, Cystitis/Urethritis, Darier's Disease, Depression, Diabetes, Diarrhea, Dravet Syndrome, Dupuytren's Contracture, Dyspepsia, Dystonia, E. T., Eczema, Ehlers Danlos, Emphysema, Endometriosis, Epilepsy/Seizure Disorder, Felty's syndrome, Fibromyalgia, Friedreich's Ataxia, GastroEsophageal Reflux Disease, Glaucoma, Graves' disease, Hemophilia A, Henoch-Schonlein Purpura, Herpes, HIV / AIDS, Hydrocephalus, Hypertension (High Blood Pressure), Hyperventilation, HYPOGLYCEMIA-MMj Treatment, Incontinence, Inflammatory Bowel, Insomnia, Interstitial Pneumonia, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Limbic Rage Syndrome, Liver Disease, Lupus, Lyme Disease, Macular Degeneration, Marfan Syndrome-, mastocytosis, Medical Marijuana as Pain Treatment for Patellofemoral Pain Syndrome, Medical Marijuana Treatment for Addiction, Melorheostosis, Meniere's Disease, Menopausal Syndrome, Migraines, Motion Sickness, Movement Disorders, MRSA, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Muscle Spasm, Muscle Spasms, Myofascial Pain, Nausea, Nephritis, Neurodegenerative Disorders, Neurofibromatosis, Neuropathy, Nightmares, NPS, Osgood-Schlatter, Osteogenesis imperfecta, Palmar Hyperhidrosis, Pancreatic Cancer, Pancreatitis, Panic Attacks, Panic Disorder, Pectus carinatum (Pigeon breast/chest), Pemphigus, Peptic Ulcer, Peutz-Jehgers, Polyarteritis Nodosa, Polycythemia vera, Porphyria—Alternative Symptom Treatments, Post

Concussion Syndrome, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PPS-Post Polio Syndrome, Prostate Cancer, Pruritus, Psoriasis, Pylorospasm reflux, Radiation Therapy, Raynaud's phenomenon, Reactive Arthritis, RLS-MMj Treats Symptoms, Schizophrenia(s), Scleroderma, Scoliosis, Selectivemutism, Shingles, Sinusitis, Sjogren's Syndrome, Sleep Apnea, Spina Bifida and Medical Marijuana, Sturge-Weber, Syringomyelia, Tenosynovitis, Testicular Cancer, Testicular Torsion, Thoracic Outlet Syndrome, Tic Douloureux, Tietze's Syndrome, Tinnitus, Tourette Syndrome and Cannabinoids, Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome To name a few

Will keeping Medicinal Marijuana illegal stop people using it?

I seriously doubt it, Cannabis is the most widely used illicit recreational drug on the planet and people still use it, people who've exhausted mainstream medicine will definitely try it (And are) especially when they see it being used internationally with great success. This will only make these people easy targets for law enforcement and make criminals out of citizens. On another note many of the habitual "recreational users" are actually self-medicating as the mainstream pharmaceuticals are not helping. With the negative side effects out waying any good they do causing another more drugs to be taken to counter act the original prescription. Opiate based pain killers are highly addictive, liver destroying and often ineffective pain relief. We the people need the right to choose how to heal ourselves especially when there are better safer options out there.

Unnatural Fear of Cannabis

The Australian Government has an unnatural fear of Cannabis. For the last fifty years we've been told that it's a gate way drug, it'll bring on schizophrenia and lead to crime. Since then Billions of dollars have been poured into Policing that should have been poured in the Health and Research. Our citizens have had their records tarnished by criminal convictions. Recently the Hemp seed Debate came up again in parliament (JAN 2015). Hemp seed is only illegal as a food in Australia and New Zealand and Hemp seed oil is illegal in Australia. Hemp seed is an excellent source of protein and still contain cannabinoids vital the endocannabinoid system. It remained illegal because it might interfere with police random drug testing – it in its self is flawed system for judging impairment of driver. Is this what's best for the people? We can buy energy drinks loaded with sugar and caffeine, which increase heart rate and impair judgement but we can't even eat Hemp Seed a proven super food? Even with genetic manipulation to gain high THC level recreational cannabis the Risk of Over dose is so close to zero. The only recorded deaths are from the additional small stress caused by that cannabis use triggered a one-in-a-million cardiac event, just as has been more frequently recorded from sport, sex, saunas and even straining on the toilet. There are more deaths in the US attributed to the use of prescribed opioids than to heroin and cocaine use combined.

Below are some the main points against Medicinal Marijuana and my thoughts on them.

Driving – Medicinal Marijuana has not shown increase of road accidents as some people against have said that it would. It should be treated like any other Medicine – a warning on the packaging, do not drive or operate heavy machinery.

Schizophrenia – Those against Medical marijuana always bring up cannabis as causing or bring on schizophrenia in pre disposed cases. There has been no increase in schizophrenia in areas where medical marijuana or recreational marijuana has been legalized it has remained at 1% of the population.

Misuse- There will always be people who sell prescribed drugs on the black market. I know of a huge portion of ADD an ADHD sufferers who ham it up to have their prescriptions increased just to sell a bottle or two of Dexamphetamine off.

Cannabis and Youth – There has always been that risk of restricted products getting in the hands of the youth. That will never go away, in my experience high school students have had a better access to cannabis than the rest of the population. Marijuana is not a gate way drug – Alcohol is and it's legal like Cigarettes and Energy drinks. In the Industry I work in some will shirk the law in order to make a few extra sales to minors but the majority are law abiding citizens.

According to the survey, almost 80 per cent of Greens voters were in favour of medicinal cannabis compared to 69.9 per cent of Labor voters and 56.6 per cent of Coalition voters.

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/majority-of-australians-support-medical-marijuana-20140723-zw56k.html>

This is just one of many polls I've seen that people want Medical marijuana. It still remains to be one the safest drugs available to man with no recorded deaths. Please Mankind needs this, people I know would use this as Medicine given the choice and the people already using it could live with the fear of the law for simply using Cannabis medicinally. I urge the senate support the Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014.

Please Hurry People are suffering needlessly

Adam 'Turtle' Granville

Joynt Venture Manager

Western Australia