

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
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Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Age Related Illnesses and Cannabis vs. Conventional Care.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Australia has a large aging population. Age Related Illnesses is a burden on Australia's medical care and system. Doctor's waiting rooms, hospital beds are occupied by "early age related illnesses" such as Post Polio and Late Effects of Polio syndrome, muscular dystrophy and other "un-treatable" pain could be alleviated with CANNABIS.

Cannabis produce a better temporary relief for ache and pain which is most prevalent with older people than conventional prescribed medicine.

There are no cost to the sufferer or tax-payer if the aged-person is allowed to grow their own plants. Addiction is not a consideration.

Aged Persons most often live separate from under-aged persons. Older people could use cannabis in the same discreet manner as they use prescribed painkillers.

Kindly consider the fact that growing old is difficult, mentally stressful for an aging person, painful and a great cost burden for the tax-payer. Please consider the possibilities of legalizing regulated cannabis use for Australia's aging population.

Kind regards,

VISKO HENDRIK VAN DER MERWE