

**Submission
No 334**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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I'm writing my personal experience with Cannabis

I have been struggling for 8 years with a severe form of Autoimmune disease during that time I have done a lot of Meds with horrible side effects and damage to my pancreas, stomach and Liver.

In this country you have to suffer from misdiagnoses or no diagnosis at all because your to complicated during that time throwing money away on specialists and not being able to get effective pain relief because doctors are scared to prescribe opioids I discovered medical cannabis to help with pain, nausea and the ability to eat which has had me using feeding tube in the past.

Cannabis gives me no side effects at all and helps thankfully but I have to pay for a doctor with no Medicare rebate, pay for my cannabis with no Medicare rebate on top of still paying for specialists, tests that Medicare doesn't cover while trying to survive on DSP. I choose not to drive so I can access my Cannabis even when I'm under no impairment which reduces my access to the outside world. Obviously I cannot afford anything but bare essentials but if I could grow my own it would save me a fortune as well as being able to help my elderly neighbour who suffers needlessly in pain when I could share my home grown, chemical free herb with her and increase both our quality of life. Wouldn't it be a great if Australian adults were treated like adults and choosing to grow their own medicine instead of giving the pharmaceutical industry more money.

In Patient forums on Facebook people are out foraging to find old remedies for pain relief which could easily result in overdosing or worse because our own government has made it so hard and expensive to be treated for pain even when you have a chronic pain condition. Believe it or not you can't always think pain away. You can do all the right things and still be in pain.

Doctors have let us Down!

Our Government has let us down!

Pharmaceutical Industry has let us down!

Give us the legal right to take care of ourselves and let us grow

Fix these driving laws so impairment is tested

Stop being a Nanny Government we can make some decisions for ourselves