

Select Committee into Alternate Approaches to Reducing Illicit Drug Use

From:
Sent: Monday, 12 November 2018 5:30 PM
To: Select Committee into Alternate Approaches to Reducing Illicit Drug Use
Subject: Medicinal cannabis access

Dear Sir/Madam.

Im one of the few Western Australian patients now with a medicinal cannabis prescription.

I never dreamt of using cannabis in any form till I developed epilepsy on top of a chronic pain condition.

It took me just over 2 years to obtain a prescription, and during this time my Neurologist expected me to continue to use blackmarket cannabis product, when he could just have written me a prescription. I eventually obtained a prescription through my GP's efforts, and im very grateful to him.

The prescription has changed my life. Ive got off opioids and most of my prescription meds including 75% drop in the antiseizure meds previously used to control my epilepsy.

I havent had migraines and nausea. I havent needed the ED department, and My pain is under control. Weaning off the other meds has allowed my bowels to finally work, and the shaking hands tremors and dizziness caused by the antiseizure medications also got resolved. I no longer use a walking stick and have been able to wear high heels again.

I am shocked at the lack of willingness from specialists in this state, to prescribe this one medication to people. And the fact that specialists within the state are telling their patients to obtain cannabis illegally rather than reducing the risk of prosecution, rather than supplying a prescription, is disgusting!

As someone living within the state, Im requesting that the state consider a compassionate stance for people still using black market cannabis medicinally, because of the difficulty in getting their specialists to prescribe a legal prescription.

There is also the cost. People within the health system that are requesting these prescriptions are some of the sickest in the state. They simply cant in most cases afford the high costs for the current products.

Please can the state consider amnesty for these sick people.

Kind Regards