

**INQUIRY INTO ROAD TRANSPORT AMENDMENT
(MEDICINAL CANNABIS-EXEMPTIONS FROM
OFFENCES) BILL 2021**

Name: Mr Nicholas Campbell

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I firmly believe the laws around cannabis use and driving are outdated and misunderstand both the drug and the people that use it.

I have personally suffered from Autism and ADHD throughout my life, and medicinal cannabis helps me to manage symptoms far better than other approved drugs like Methylphenidate. Amphetamine medications are most commonly prescribed for these conditions. I have used these amphetamine medications from the age of 10, and while they have helped symptoms in some ways, they are incredibly dangerous. I can say with 100% certainty that 'Meth is Meth'. Meth is dangerous, and has so much potential to ruin lives.

Personally, I do not want to use Meth. I prefer Cannabis. It is safer in so many ways. Very much so in circumstances involving automobiles and roads. It must be obvious that Meth speeds up a person's thinking whereas Cannabis will slow it down. Many people with my diagnoses would agree that the last thing someone with my condition wants to do is make an impulsive or 'neuro-divergent' decision on the road. Cannabis slows this process down and allows the opportunity to make calm and balanced decisions.

Cannabis is quite simply, not the drug it has been painted as over the last century. I implore you to think critically and with an open mind when considering these laws.

I consider myself an accomplished individual, who has overcome his diagnoses and leads a happy and successful life. Cannabis has played a huge role in this outcome.

Losing one's license in a rural area for the simple presence of cannabis is crippling, and destroys a large amount of good I can provide my community in my work as a Musical Director and lecturer in Music. It is absurd that I can be 'high as a kite' on Methylphenidate, and not lose my license, yet if there is even a trace of cannabis in my system, I will lose my license and descend into the welfare system.

Thank you for re-considering these laws, and I hope this letter helps to give a perspective on this issue.

Kind Regards

Nicholas Campbell - BMus