

**Submission
No 51**

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

Name: Mr Craig Hartland

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As a user of medicinal cannabis for pain , I live in the constant fear of losing my licence and being fined heavily for trace amounts of cannabis in saliva , even with no impairment. This situation leaves me with intense anxiety about receiving a criminal conviction for taking a legal medicine . Current laws do not take impairment into account , and I know of real cases where people have been penalised severely for traces of THC , even 12 to sixteen hours after use , long after any impairing effects have worn off . Indeed , even the government's own instructions in it's road safety advertising campaign can result in conviction , as detections are possible even after this time . I have had a clean driving record for 42 years and have never been charged with driving under the influence of anything . Following current drug driving laws , alcohol intoxication could be proposed with as little as .01 % blood alcohol . If the government wants to truly promote road safety , and not merely appear to be a revenue stream for the administration , the best way to demonstrate this would be to base drug driving laws on impairment , as has been done already in many jurisdictions worldwide . The technology is already available to do this . Otherwise , the public can only assume the current regime is based on social punishment and revenue raising .