

**Submission
No 25**

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

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Hi my name is James, I'm 45 yrs old, I have been a regular cannabis user for over 30 yrs, (with no resulting Mental health issues) I was diagnosed in 2010 with a rare Incurable cancer (systemic Mastocytosis-smouldering stage) My GP's & specialists have tried to treat my pain with opiates which side effects (unbearable stomach pain) are just as bad as the bone pain I have from my condition! The chronic pain Specialist I seen was reluctant to prescribe marijuana (a Category 5 drug) Instead giving me a list of "S8 DRUGS" that she Was happy to prescribe..(I believe because of the stigma of Society & Marijuana) which only caused me intense stomach Pain, which I knew would happen! HOWEVER.. whenever I have Smoked Marijuana I get an immense feeling of pain relief.. WITHOUT THE SIDE EFFECTS OF OPIATES.. So I have been "forced" to go underground & "self medicate".. (Which is illegal) .. I believe this NEEDS TO CHANGE! The Next Government to get my VOTE will be the one that LEGALISES CANNABIS! & ALSO.. PUTS IN A LEGISLATION TO PROTECT "MEDICINAL CANNABIS USES" WHEN DRIVING!.. NO ONE IS STONED "THE DAY AFTER" USING CANNABIS!