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

Name:Name suppressedDate Received:11 May 2024

Partially Confidential

Honorable Members,

I wish to advocate my unwavering support for the full legalization of cannabis. While medicinal cannabis has rightfully found legal standing in many jurisdictions, the broader legalization of cannabis for both medicinal and recreational purposes remains a pressing matter of public policy and social justice.

First and foremost, the legalization of cannabis would bring about a host of benefits for individuals, communities, and society at large. By legalizing cannabis, we can regulate its production, distribution, and consumption, thereby ensuring quality control, product safety, and harm reduction. Moreover, legalization would effectively dismantle the black market, undercut criminal enterprises, and redirect resources towards education, prevention, and treatment initiatives.

Furthermore, legalization would serve as a powerful tool for destigmatizing cannabis use. The current prohibitionist approach perpetuates harmful stereotypes and unjustly penalizes individuals for engaging in behavior that poses minimal harm to themselves or others. By legalizing cannabis, we can foster open dialogue, promote responsible consumption, and challenge the outdated attitudes that continue to fuel discrimination and marginalization.

Additionally, the issue of drug driving laws cannot be overlooked in the context of cannabis legalization. While it is imperative to address impaired driving, the current methods of detecting cannabis impairment are unreliable and disproportionately impact cannabis users. As such, there is a pressing need to reform existing laws and implement fair and accurate measures that prioritize road safety without infringing upon the rights of cannabis consumers.

In conclusion, I implore this assembly to consider the overwhelming evidence and public support for the full legalization of cannabis. By embracing legalization, we can create a more just, equitable, and enlightened society—one that respects individual autonomy, promotes public health, and rejects the failed policies of prohibition.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,