

**Submission
No 119**

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

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I have had to abandon my perfectly prescribed cannabis medication due to the risk and anxiety created by the discriminatory driving laws and seemingly over saturated RDT in the Northern Rivers region.

I have worked hard in my life to be able to buy my own farm and become a farmer, which is known to be one of the most dangerous professions.

I have absolutely no problem operating multiple types of heavy machinery and vehicles on a daily basis whilst medicated by cannabis. However, I can no longer cope with the pressure of being caught in a RDT and the wildly inaccurate drug screening process.

If I lost my driving licence it would be catastrophic to my family, my farm and criminalise me for simply taking my medicine.

The stress from this risk has been crippling and forced me to cease taking my medication.

Since the cessation of the medicinal cannabis, my insomnia, ADHD and anxiety symptoms have returned worse than I have ever experienced. I have been forced to seek medical attention to find another treatment for my condition that has and will be with me my whole life.

In a cruel irony the new treatment makes me feel unsafe to drive and the side effects are difficult to bear, creating a depression that I have never experienced, knowing that I cannot use the medication that works for me.

I truly wish that those voices against sensible and inevitable reform to legislation could walk in my shoes and really feel and understand the challenges of being Neurodivergent.

Cannabis is a medicine that works me but, I feel like I am being wrongly demonised for treating my condition responsibly and effectively.