

**Submission
No 124**

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

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Good day my name is Marc Selan. I have been a medical cannabis consumer since being diagnosed with ulcerative colitis in 2013. Obviously there was no recognized medical cannabis access then. I self cultivated Cannabis to maintain my health, and continue running my dental technician laboratory. I was arrested for self cultivating but had no fine or charges. I soon left Australia with my family for Barcelona where I lived for 8 years, running a cannabis association. This environment gave me safe access in order to maintain my health and continue to live in peace.

I have now returned to Australia and have been living here for a year. I have supported the Legalise Cannabis party in the hope that Australians will be able to experience the same freedoms I have in Spain. Cannabis use is a health care issue not a criminal problem. The legislation is the problem that persecutes many Australians daily. I have a job driving for NRMA as a patrolman. This requires a multitude of skills not only mechanical knowledge but an ability to communicate with the public in high stress and sometimes emergency situations. I attended emergency call outs where babies and animals are locked in vehicles. I need to be aware of not only my safety but the safety of the people around me. I am on call and work long hours and absolutely none of it would be possible if I didn't use cannabis to maintain my health. The continued persecution and discrimination against cannabis consumers must desist immediately.