

Submission
No 177

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 10 May 2024

Partially
Confidential

My name is _____ and I am a recent retiree living in the Northern Rivers. As Captain of Blue Knob Rural Fire Brigade for the last 10 years I meet and hear about many members of the local community.

I know of several RFS volunteers who regularly use cannabis products, mainly for health reasons but also for recreation. Contrary to representations from the media and particularly the police, these are all very active in the community. It causes the community and me great difficulty if they are penalised for cannabis use. None have had any issues with the police apart from testing positive to random drug tests - i.e. their lives and especially driving record are enhanced by cannabis use.

I submit that making cannabis use legal for individuals would assist the local community enormously. Keeping cannabis use illegal criminalises valuable community members to no purpose apart from political and/or religious point-scoring and is deeply iniquitous.