

**Submission
No 181**

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

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Date Received: 10 May 2024

It makes little sense to legalise smoking and alcohol and not cannabis for similar recreational use. Australia lags behind many countries in the world who have decriminalised Cannabis use. We have one territory - the ACT - that has . And they also allow drug testing which is a progressive move towards safe concert going for young people.

There is proven evidence that parts of Cannabis helps with pain relief and other associated medical issues.

Decriminalisation may reduce the burden on the justice system, but probably not as much as full legalisation because police and court resources would still be used for cautioning, issuing fines, or diversion to education or treatment. Decriminalisation and legalisation both potentially reduce the involvement of the justice system and also of the black market growing and selling of cannabis.