

Submission
No 308

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
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Submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Impact of the Legislative Framework for Cannabis in NSW

Thanks for the opportunity to make this submission, the laws applicable to cannabis in Australia and NSW are frankly stupid, Medical Cannabis is legal but driving with any THC in your system is illegal with PPM being near completely irrelevant when in fact the PPM or any measurement of blood THC is very relevant when considering impairment, alcohol has a set minimum 0,5 but not cannabis, prescription opiates etc no minimum as prescription opiates are perfectly legal to drive with any quantity in your system.

Cannabis is basically harmless to the vast majority of people and yet somehow is a schedule 8 drug, other S8 drugs include fentanyl, Cocaine, ketamine and Opium among others, the US National Center for Health Statistics says that fentanyl killed 74000 people in the US in 2023, Cocaine 29000 deaths.

https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2024/20240515.htm

The US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) in their 2020 Marijuana/Cannabis fact sheet claims that there were no overdose deaths caused by cannabis.

https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/Marijuana-Cannabis-2020_0.pdf

So why is cannabis a schedule 8 drug? In 24 states in the USA, Thailand and Uruguay, Canada and now Sth Africa recreational Cannabis is legal, i would say as harmless as water except that about 4000 people annually drown in the USA, so one could say cannabis is safer than water.

Approximately 55 million people in the US, Canada, Sth Africa and Thailand use legal recreational cannabis at least weekly and the negative effects on society are basically zero, the positives are many, tax revenue, jobs, new industry, new opportunities, law enforcement freed up to tackle real problems etc etc.

It's completely idiotic to classify cannabis at S8 when any serious consideration of the facts can only lead to one conclusion, cannabis is basically a harmless substance in flower form, oils/concentrates will need to be controlled as there is some risk of accidental ingestion by minors etc, but flower and growing a few in the back yard is nothing and should be treated as such.