

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

As someone who struggled for years with debilitating sleep and anxiety issues, the introduction of medicinal cannabis into my life has been nothing short of transformative. Gone are the sleepless nights filled with tossing and turning, replaced instead with restful and rejuvenating slumber. The constant knot of anxiety that once gripped my chest has loosened its hold, allowing me to navigate life with a newfound sense of calm and clarity.

Before discovering the healing properties of medicinal cannabis, I had tried countless traditional treatments with limited success. Prescription medications left me feeling groggy and disconnected, while therapy provided only temporary relief. It wasn't until I turned to cannabis as a last resort that I finally found the relief I had been desperately seeking.

Through careful experimentation and guidance from knowledgeable professionals, I found the right strains and dosages to address my specific needs. Cannabis not only helps me fall asleep more easily but also improves the quality of my rest, leaving me feeling refreshed and energized each morning. During the day, it acts as a natural anxiety reliever, allowing me to confront challenges with a sense of equanimity rather than overwhelming dread.

However, despite the undeniable benefits it has brought to my life, navigating the legal landscape surrounding medicinal cannabis can be challenging. One particularly frustrating aspect is the current driving laws that prohibit operating a vehicle with detectable levels of cannabis in one's system. While I fully support measures to ensure road safety, these laws fail to account for the fact that cannabis can remain detectable in the body long after its psychoactive effects have worn off. As a result, patients like myself are unfairly penalized, facing potential legal consequences even when we are not impaired.

These laws not only create unnecessary obstacles for individuals seeking relief through medicinal cannabis but also perpetuate harmful stigmas surrounding its use. Instead of focusing solely on detecting the presence of cannabis, policymakers should prioritize developing more accurate methods for assessing impairment behind the wheel. By taking a nuanced and evidence-based approach to regulation, we can ensure that patients have access to the treatments they need without compromising public safety.

In conclusion, the introduction of medicinal cannabis into my life has been nothing short of life-changing. By effectively addressing my sleep and anxiety issues, it has allowed me to reclaim control over my well-being and live a more fulfilling life. However, in order to fully realize the potential benefits of medicinal cannabis, it is imperative that we address outdated and discriminatory driving laws that hinder patients' access to treatment. Only then can we truly harness the healing power of this remarkable plant.