

**Testimony Supporting HB 2919 House Health Care Committee April 8, 2013.**

Chairman Greenlick and members of the House Health Care Committee,

I am a 58 year old Oregonian who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis over a dozen years ago. After many years of seeking treatments for the various symptoms of the disease, I heard Montel Williams speak of his experience using Marijuana for his MS neuropathic pain. Once I was able to obtain a sample and try it, I found it was more effective than the pharmaceuticals my OHSU neurologist had prescribed for me. After consulting with him and my long time primary care physician, my primary care physician wrote me a prescription for Medical Marijuana and I enrolled in the OMMP.

After several more years of mostly fruitless efforts to find a safe, legal, effective, and consistent source for my medicine, I was finally introduced to a grower associated with the M Scale project. Since he became my grower I have been fortunate to receive the strains of medicine I need that fit the various symptoms I experience. Not many patients are as lucky.

The research that HB 2919 would help initiate is much needed. Please stand with me in supporting HB 2919 so that all OMMP patients may one day be as fortunate as I am in receiving effective and consistent medicine.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Fingerut', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Lawrence Fingerut

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