

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

Chairman Greenlick and House Health Care Committee Members,

Thank you for hearing HB 2919.

I appreciate the time put aside today on behalf of brave champions & true compassion. This HB has interested myself along with many others as it clearly outlines a superior state medical system. I currently work with a doctor who helps to oversee New Jersey's medical marijuana program. I came to know medical cannabis through my documented experience with wasting syndrome, cachexia and vomiting. Experts had tried many treatments, Marinol, also known as Dronabinol, and later medical marijuana. Marijuana was by far the most successful of these treatments. I discovered a specific type of medical marijuana to help boost my hunger. The complete cannabinoid profile, including the other 86+ non-active and medically beneficial constituents of this plant, had saved my life by stimulating my appetite.

I weighted in at merely 90 lbs. and height 5'7 when I first came to Oregon. By using "tinctures" or cannabinoids in a vegetable glycerin, oil and other non-inhalation type methods my weight went up to 120lbs. Friends, family and neighbors were amazed with "how vibrant and healthy" I now look. It is common belief of many MD's that the Marinol or isolated "delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol" treatment alone would have left me bed ridden on death's doorstep. I am glad to say I can now attend school, and contribute as a functional member of modern day society.

A main concern I would like to address is that only 2 cannabinoid drugs are currently licensed for sale in the U.S. Dronabinol, aka Marinol, and Nabilone-Cesamet. Both are only available in oral form.

Only one isolated constituent of this plant, Delta 9 THC is present in Dronabinol or Marinol. Its medical benefits are not equivalent to the health benefits provided by the synergetic effects of the 87+ cannabinoids produced by the plant itself. Many, if not all, of these constituents found in the plant compliment each other. The reported miraculous health effects of this biomass "medical marijuana" or "cannabis" remain within the realms of known science & horticulture and technology thanks to native research projects.

The kiwi is a classified super foods with good reason. For the overall beneficial health effects of the compounds found in these fruits are more pronounced when taken together. Being nutrient dense, anti-oxidant rich, enzyme packed, this fruit constituents compliment each other when acting together. This is often known as synergy. It is easy to see how the whole can often be greater than the sum of its parts.

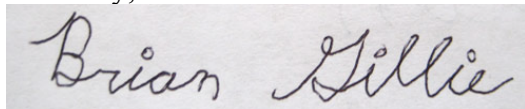
I feel this concept is particularly important to understand as it is also applied to the house

in which you are now standing as constituents today.

When working together we are able to accomplish more while asking less. I hope this bill may pave the path for a state united on a logic based and scientific path.

I encourage the use of non-smoked forms of THC that have proven therapeutic value. I encourage the exploration of improved applications and delivery methods and HB 2919 clearly creates the basis for this extremely important work. Thank you for reviewing my testimony, I would ask you to assign HB 2919 to a work-session and then support it with a "Do-Pass" recommendation. I believe HB 2919 is the best legislative solution for Oregon and I believe you will too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Gillis". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Brian Gillis  
Medical Marijuana Patient