

5/4/17

Honorable Co-Chairs Burdick and Lininger, and Joint Committee Members:

For the record, my name is **Michael D. Rochlin, RN, MN, COHN-S, CSP**.

I own a Cannabis business sector consulting firm (third year now): MJ Enterprises, LLC.

I am also an independent voice, as a licensed health professional Nurse with Cannabinoid Therapeutic expertise. My clinical expertise is in pain management.

I have appeared before this Committee many times since Measure 91 was passed.

Let me say first that this Committee has served Oregon well. You have been a deliberative body that has helped Oregon create a safe and meaningful path for the Legalization of Cannabis. Keeping within the intent of the voters, including a large population of OMMP Oregonian patients, I offer the following comments for your consideration on HB 2198:

1. This bill is a necessary companion bill to SB 1057.
2. HB 2198 is critical to ensure a meaningful future OMMP program for those who have established a medical need.
3. HB 2198, if passed, will send a strong signal to Oregon citizens that Oregon will not abandon the patients at this critical juncture in time.
4. A Medical Use of Cannabis Board can be an important resource, to facilitate needed interagency agreements, thereby transitioning into a unified system. Without a formal and independent medical use body, the fate of the OMMP and quite possibly the entire legal regulated industry might not retain our outstanding reputation in the Cannabis sector, as a true craft "Made-in-Oregon" brand.
5. Medical use of Cannabis will not go away. Even with almost a century of oppressive resistance, I am hearing lately from interested scientists and clinicians that are interested in learning about this ancient healing and wellness herb. However, there is still significant institutional resistance (academic and government) to move forward with meaningful research and education that is needed NOW! A well-known medical scientist, Dr. Sue Sisley, recently reported that the NIDA "research-grade" Cannabis she received for her PTSD study was contaminated with mold! No Federal testing standards; that is a significant lesson that needs to be emphasized. Without adequate testing standards, the quality can be questionable & research becomes more difficult and expensive; NOT an option. Please do NOT roll back any testing, for economic reasons only, until data is analyzed and reviewed publicly about this highly technical subject. Its NOT about the money (except for some people) , its about safety. A California patient died this year from contaminated Cannabis product, and an investigation revealed that a large majority of samples taken after, were also contaminated.
6. The health outcomes of pain patients can be significantly influenced, and the Oregon Pain Management Commission recently discussed alternatives, such as Cannabis! This is one small but important step toward safer alternative medicines.
7. Approx. 70% of US population is pain, according to recent reports. That is a significant part of the population that could use a safer, less toxic and harmful product than opioids.
8. Significant adverse reactions, overdoses and deaths could be avoided, by ensuring truthful and valid Cannabis Science moves forward, via this bill.
9. Primary Care health professionals need better objective and reliable pain management info, including potential to relive suffering with Cannabinoid Therapeutics.

10. Hundreds of Cannabinoids, including Terpenes need to be studied, as Terpenes already are known to have therapeutic and synergistic effects.
11. We need to have objective data and facts, and by passing HB 2198, this Joint Committee can help move Oregon forward, and keep our top shelf reputation.
12. The information will also be helpful for the Legal industry by answering needed questions that help with marketing a safe product and improve health.

Thank you,

Michael D. Rochlin, RN, MN, COHN-S, CSP
Dba MJ Enterprises, LLC
Portland, OR 97209
206.427.1048
MDRo
chlin@gmail.com