

To whom it may concern,

My Truth....

I have dealt with chronic pain, depression, and anxiety for most of my adult life. Up until 2016 I was able to take non narcotic medication that helped control some of the chronic pain both from my fibromyalgia and from my degenerative disc disease in my back. At least then I had a chance for more good days.

In late September of 2016 I had a kidney stone that completely blocked my right kidney and threw me into deep septic shock. As a result I spent some time on dialysis and my kidney function is closely monitored. Because of the insult my kidneys took during that time, I can no longer take a lot of the non narcotic pain medication that is used to control chronic pain as they tend to be toxic to the kidneys. I now deal with post-sepsis anxiety, depression, chemical brain injury, and the aches and pains that many deal with after they survive sepsis (on top of the normal pain that I deal with on a daily basis).

I want to be more active. I want to be less depressed and I want to be able to feel like the weight of the world has been lifted off my shoulders and like I am not waiting for the next shoe to drop. People like Dan Hawkins would picture me as just another lazy drug seeker....but I can tell you that there is nothing farther from the truth. The one controlled medication that I do take is so low that it has under treated my anxiety and my record with taking it is squeaky clean. In the past, I have used CBD and when I can get enough of it (due to expense because CBD alone does not work with me...I have to take a huge amount of the stuff), I feel a huge sense of relief like I have just survived a terrible storm and finally am seeing the sun break through the clouds. It helps a little with the pain, but, again, due to the amount I have to take because CBD alone is not completely effective for me. However, CBD did tell me that medical cannabis does hold hope for me as not only a valid means of a control medication to take daily to help my various issues, but also as a rescue medication (in a delivery system that would take effect faster than taking a pill or a patch) for days when breakthroughs are bad. I don't want to live a life impaired, but I am forced to do that now as it is, but rather I want to live a life that can be enhanced so that I can do the things I want to do. It would be so nice to be able to get the strength and stamina back again to even be able to work part time a few hours a week.

I would like to politely ask or rather politely demand (if I could please be so bold) that I be given access to the medication that gives me the hope of being able to do what I want.

Thank you

Anne Wanger