

Hi, thanks for your reply. I would like to offer this testimony to share with the Committee. Can you omit my email and I am not including my last name due to my job. Thanks.

I am writing to share my story with you in an effort hopefully make you understand the need for reform in the Medical Marijuana Program. I am a middle class Vermonter working in the Medical field for the last 9 years. Before that, I worked for 17 years for a large corporation. I am a registered MMJ patient and registered Voter. I have a small homestead nestled on 10 acres in Vermont and live as organically as I can.

For the last 10 years, I have suffered 3 day long excruciating migraines that leave me incapacitated for 3 full days, and an additional 2 days to recover. I have severe cervical degenerative disease of my neck and fibromyalgia. The migraines include severe pain, vomiting, car sick feeling and vision impairment. I often lose up to 5 lbs with each migraine. I have gone into debt several thousands of dollars trying every test, remedy, pill, injection and gimmick out there, with no help. I was on every narcotic out there, Tryptans, supplements and beta blockers that cost upwards of \$400 for 6 pills. In addition, I relentlessly went to physical therapy, chiropractic, massage, acupuncture and every other service to try to get relief, including spinal injections that were very unpleasant. I was becoming very depressed due to the loss of time with these horrific migraines, the pain, loss of work and financial hardship.

Two years ago I met an MMJ patient who swore by Cannabis to cure their pain and nausea. I was very skeptical as I am in the Medical Field, so it took me over a year to try it. It not only stopped my vomiting immediately, it cut the pain by 50% so I could actually lay down and rest. Normally, I pace or sit when I have a migraine because I can't lay down because the pain is excruciating. I immediately went to my doctor, and she agreed to help me get my card.

Since then, I have gone off all Narcotics, Tryptans and have ceased all the things above I was wasting money on that didn't help. I use a CBD hybrid that, if taken early enough, will stop a migraine from occurring. I can still keep my very demanding job and I feel so much better going OFF the narcotics. I am now only having headaches once a month, and they only last one day. I can't tell you how happy it has made me and how much my life has improved.

I have written many House and Senate members and they are proposing the exact opposite of what we as patients have asked for in S216:

1. Vermont has one of the lowest allowable plant count in all the states that are legal or medical. We are asking for 3 plants flowering and 6 immature. In S216, they give the dispensaries additional plants, but not the patients. H511 allows the general public to have 2 flowering so medical patients should be granted more as we are using it for medical reasons. 2 flowering isn't enough for an outdoor grower growing in a greenhouse or screened in area.

2. H511 - S216 added that another adult in the same household cannot grow their own plants under H511 if an MMJ patient is growing in the same household. This is so wrong - they can't use MMJ Cannabis legally. Isn't that unethical to prohibit someone from having H511 limits just because a medical patient resides in the home? It IS legal to have two patients growing in the same house, so it should be for S216 & H511. \*\*this has since been removed but is now a "gray" area - we need clarification in the rules
3. S216 does change Medical to "screened from public view" like H511, which I have asked for. Thank you for this
4. None of the bills address the issue of what a flowering plant or mature plant actually is. Do pistils count as flowering? No one can tell me. Pistils are not buds. A mature plant is a plant that has buds that are more than 50% covered in trichomes. This can only be determined by using an eyeloop or microscope, like many growers use. We need clarification in the rules

Thank you for considering my testimony,  
Stacy