

Monday, March 14, 2022

SB 560

Proponent

Written-Only Testimony

Annette Thomas

620-432-1004

[rathomas1956@zimbracloud.com](mailto:rathomas1956@zimbracloud.com)

Self

Honorable Chairman and members of this committee,

I would like to thank you for your time and for your attention on this matter before you.

I am advocating on behalf of my husband and my mother and many other Kansans suffering.

My husband was diagnosed with Legionnaires Disease back in 2008 and since then he has had one medical issue after another. He had to take early retirement from his job at the State because of all this. He has most recently been diagnosed with Crohn's disease, I don't know if this was brought on by all the antibiotics for fight the Legionnaire's or if this is damage from the legionella bacteria or just DBL (dang bad luck).

Moreover, he is also suffering from arthritis in his hips and lower back, which he takes Tramadol for, they have suggested stronger pain meds, but he doesn't like how they make him feel. This is a man that had an engineering license and worked for KDHE until he was too sick to. I have done a lot of research on cannabis and how it can help calm down flare-up for people with Crohn's. Here is one such article.

<https://www.healtheuropa.eu/icbd-cbd-formulation-ibd/100721/>

My mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's about 6-8 years ago and that is when I really started my journey into helping get cannabis into the hands of patients in Kansas. I am afraid that mom is too far along for cannabis to reverse any of the brain loss she has suffered, but I do believe that the calming affect it has would help her and others along their journey with this horrible disease. Mom told us when she was first diagnosed with Alzheimer's, that she would be willing to try anything, she just didn't want to be so "drugged" out that she just lay there.

When I told her about this research

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/abbierosner/2020/06/18/notes-from-the-cutting-edge-israeli-researcher-dedi-meiri-on-cannabis-alzheimers-and-dementia/?sh=343982c36ec2?>

I had found from Israel, she told my sister and myself she wanted to give it a try, but we never got the chance to take her out of state for her to try. Now she is in an assisted living facility, and she is happy, but I feel like she (and we) was cheated out of a few more years with her knowing who we are.

Please, on behalf of my husband and mom, please pass the medical use of cannabis in the state of Kansas. We own land here, work here, this is home, and we would like to be able to choose how we treat our ailments, whether it is with man-made pharmaceuticals or from a God made plant.

We just lost another friend last week to depression. Cannabis has been shown to help people that are suffering from depression. I am saddened it is too late for Pat, but I am hoping and praying you can see your way around getting a bill passed to help others.

We have other family and friends that have been forced to move out of our state just so they can medicate how they see best. I also feel we are losing bigtime when it comes to revenue we could be receiving. I for one would love to get into the business of either growing or running a

dispensary, but I can't even consider it until it becomes legal in Kansas, and I am praying that the license and fees are where most people can afford to start up.

I thank you again for your time and consideration,

Annette Thomas

620-432-1004

Wilson County Kansas