

# SB 2262

## **RELATING TO PAIN RIGHTS PATIENTS BILL OF RIGHTS**

### *Description:*

Clarifies that the medical use of marijuana is considered to be consistent with the pain patient's bill of rights.



**To: Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs**

**To: Committee on Health**

**From: Andrea Tischler, Co Chair**

**RE: SB 2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights**

**Position: SUPPORT**

**The Big Island Chapter of Americans for Safe Access support chronic and acute medical cannabis patients the right to request or reject all treatment modalities. SB 2262 will guarantee that MJ patients have this right by incorporating it in the Pain Patients Bill of Rights (2008).**

**Numerous scientific studies and anecdotal testimonies from chronic pain patients prove that medical cannabis is a powerful pain medicine without the dangerous side effects of addictive drugs such as Vicodin and Oxycontin. Another benefit is that it allows patients to reduce the amount of prescriptive drugs they need to take to manage pain.**

**Cannabis has been recommended by the Hawai'i Medical Association to be placed as a Schedule III controlled substance. This would allow doctors to prescribe as they do Oxycontin.**

**Working with dozens of patients we know the relief cannabis provides from neuropathic pain and paresthesias from which many people older and younger suffer. Cannabis medicine has improved the quality of life for thousands of patients.**

**We ask that you pass this bill. Mahalo Nui Loa.**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2012 5:14 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** forecharlee@msn.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Charles Webb, MD  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [forecharlee@msn.com](mailto:forecharlee@msn.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2012

Comments:

STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 2262

As a physician with over 35 years of experience in Emergency Medicine and Urgent Care, I have great respect for the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights (2008), in which acute and chronic pain patients are guaranteed the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities".

Unfortunately, pain patients using medical cannabis legally in Hawaii are still subjected to bias and discrimination and are treated as second class citizens:

- 1) Medical cannabis patients are not allowed to travel inter-island with their pain medication, yet all other controlled substances are allowed.
- 2) Pain patients deserve to be liberated from the terrorism of dangerously low-flying helicopters with machine guns. Why are we wasting millions of dollars just to give patients PTSD?
- 3) The over-seeing Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) treats all patients as criminal suspects and continually asserts that patients "abuse" the system. For example, the NED is currently pushing bills such as HB 1963 which would remove 90% of chronic pain patients from medical cannabis certification and instantly turn them into criminals if they used their medication. This would force many pain patients to return to deadly and addicting (but legal) opioids such as Oxycontin. Pain patients deserve the right to choose the far safer and less addicting treatment of medical cannabis.
- 4) Many pain patients can be denied on-the-job injury benefits if their urine tests positive for inactive THC metabolites left over from use as long as a month ago! Actual THC blood tests could easily test for current usage and influence, but employers always choose the completely unreliable urine test. Would you like to be charged for a DUI if you had only one beer last week and no alcohol since then? Think about it, please.
- 5) Cannabis is a safe medication which is relatively non-addicting and causes no violence and no known fatalities. Many scientific studies now prove that cannabis is also a very effective pain medication, especially for the most difficult to treat chronic pains such as nerve pains. Please note that the Hawaii Medical Association (HMA) passed a resolution recommending that cannabis be legalized as a Schedule III controlled substance (same as Vicodin) that could be routinely prescribed by physicians. Medical problems should be treated by physicians (not crusading law enforcement), and the physicians are telling you that cannabis should not be so restricted, but should for the benefit of mankind be made more available to patients. Please do the right thing and vote to include medical cannabis patients in the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights. Mahalo.

Charles Webb, MD

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2012 9:52 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** buzzzed@msn.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sandra Webb, RN  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [buzzzed@msn.com](mailto:buzzzed@msn.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2012

Comments:

Sandy Webb, RN  
73-993 Ahikawa St  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
Strong Support of SB 2262

I have worked as a health-care professional for over 30 years (ICU, ER, Radiology, and education). I have never seen the rights of a patient so blatantly ignored and harassed as in the specialty of Medical Cannabis. As a nurse I am a patient advocate, standing up for and speaking up for all patient populations. That is why I strongly support SB 2262. The addition of Medical cannabis patients to the "Pain patient Bill of right" is only right and just.

The original intent of the medical program was to aide patients with chronic and debilitating conditions. It specifically includes the pain patient. It was set up to help patients, not exclude them from equal medical rights. Only a physician can be the judge when it comes to a patient's condition.

These are just a few questions you need to ask yourselves before you decide to exclude a pain patient's right to protection under the law.

1. How would you like to experience daily severe/ chronic pain without the right to choice of treatment options?
2. Would you like it if you were forced to use a medicine that causes dependence, constipation and addiction (like Oxycontin)? Has side effects that cause bleeding ulcers (like the non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, aspirin, Advil and Aleve)? When there is a perfectly safe and effective alternative that you much prefer using and has been legal for use in the state of Hawaii for 12 years?
3. Would you like it if you were in pain and nobody believed you?
4. Will you really deny this group of pain patients the right of choice for a legal medicine in the state of Hawaii?
5. Will you deny a pain patient effective pain control?

I respectfully ask for you to support the inclusion of the Medical Cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 7:20 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** samsmall@ptd.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sam Small  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [samsmall@ptd.net](mailto:samsmall@ptd.net)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:  
STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 2262

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 7:49 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** inter@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Pier Paolo de Angelis  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [inter@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:inter@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 8:54 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** imyoung@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Iain  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [imyoung@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:imyoung@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

The founding fathers of the United States of America all grew this wonderful plant; cannabis. I am a US Army veteran and at the age of 71 I suffer cronic pain that keeps me from living a full life, however with the relief inherent in the use of cannabis I can now enjoy a full range of activity. Cannabis is after all a flowering plant and in no way can it be considered a drug. Show me just one drug in pill or injectable form that grows in the ground and is not processes for anyh purpose. Those of us with open minds appreciate the wonderful effects of these flowers when used to treat our pain.

No matter how long this plant has been catagorized as illegal it has been readily available on the black market. Stop the immature attitude to this flowering plant and allow us to benefit from its use. Tax this plant but do not waste any more revenues spent on trying to eliminate its use so extremely unsuccessfully. Our tax dollars have been spent over the last half century in excess of half a billion dollars only to see the use and availability of this plant increase.

I for one benefit by being able to live pain free thanks to this god given plant.

Please do the moral thing and allow us who have been prescribed by or physicians to benefit from the use of this wonderful plant.

Cannabis has wrongly been called a gateway drug but the fact is it a gateway to a pain free life.

Do the mature and correct thing and vote to allow our physicians to practice medicine without YOU practicing medicine without a license by preaching your misguided opinions.

Vote to allow the prescription of cannabis for the treatment of cronic pain as well as other medical conditions.

Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 9:42 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** carmie.spellman@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: C.K. Spellman  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [carmie.spellman@gmail.com](mailto:carmie.spellman@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

Please allow SB2262 to pass. My mother wasted away with stage 4 cancer her weight went down to 80 pounds. She couldn't tolerate the chemical narcotics as they were too harsh, caused edema, constipation, and mal-absorption and her pain was indescribable. I watched her waste away daily feeling helpless. Finally, a compassionate and sage doctor suggested Medical Marijuana. The only thing that gave her comfort in her last days on this earth was medical marijuana.

Additionally, I have many friends who are disabled Vet's. Veteran Affairs has used good judgment in allowing our women and men a means to control their pain from missing limbs and other horrendous maladies due to fighting wars for the United States. Please read this article below:

Veteran Affairs decided to have access to medical marijuana August 5, 2010 The Maui Weekly | The Associated press - Patients treated at Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals and clinics will be able to use medical marijuana in 14 states, including Hawai'i, where it is legal, according to new federal guidelines. The directive from the Veterans Affairs Department in the coming week is intended to clarify current policy that says veterans can be denied pain medication if they use illegal drugs. Veterans groups have complained for years that this could bar veterans from VA benefits if they were caught using medical marijuana. The new guidance does not authorize VA doctors to begin prescribing medical marijuana, which is considered an illegal drug under federal law. But it will now make clear that in the 14 states where state and federal law are in conflict, VA clinics generally will allow the use of medical marijuana for veterans already taking it under other clinicians.

Thank you for your time. Please save lives or at least give them comfort by helping people with pain-control and pass SB 2262.



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 9:49 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nancicoulter@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Nanci D Coulter  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nancicoulter@yahoo.com](mailto:nancicoulter@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

I have a type of Crohn's disease which I documented medically when I applied for my license for the use of medical marijuana. I am a 62 year old woman who wouldn't dream of breaking the law. The medications given to me to manage this disease were addictive in nature, and some like Mesmaline are extraordinarily expensive to boot. They were also not as effective as marijuana, leaving me in pain, cramps, diarrhea, that lead to wasting.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 10:22 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** jeffray@pacific.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jeff LaFrance  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [jeffray@pacific.net](mailto:jeffray@pacific.net)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

I urge you to support sb 2262. I am a patient and I have severe pain. As a result of an accident I live in pain every day. I am not an abuser of medicinal marijuana, I use it sparingly. I believe I have right to choose, I should have a choice in the methods I use to treat my condition. I believe taking this right from me is an abuse of powers. If I am left with only a choice of using pain medications that have side effects that are often addictive, health threatening, and dangerous, then I am at risk. The pharmaceutical companies care not about my health, as they are driven by profit. I believe taking my right to choose herbal remedies over toxic remedies would be a manifest injustice. My health care options are between myself and my doctor, and should not be a political subject. If you take my right to choose from me, and therefore define me as a criminal, has justice been served, or did you just create a new class of criminals? I should not have to live in fear, because I choose natural treatments over synthetic toxins. I should be able to live in peace, and have a right to choose. I urge you to preserve my right to choose.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:14 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** johnneperez@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: john peters  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [johnneperez@mac.com](mailto:johnneperez@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

y I strongly support SB 2262. The addition of Medical cannabis patients to the "Pain patient Bill of right" is only right and just.

The original intent of the medical program was to aide patients with chronic and debilitating conditions. It specifically includes the pain patient. It was set up to help patients, not exclude them from equal medical rights. Only a physician can be the judge when it comes to a patient's condition.

These are just a few questions you need to ask yourselves before you decide to exclude a pain patient's right to protection under the law.

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3. Would you like it if you were in pain and nobody believed you?

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I respectfully ask for you to support the inclusion of the Medical Cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:14 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** johnneperez@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: john peters  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [johnneperez@mac.com](mailto:johnneperez@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

y I strongly support SB 2262. The addition of Medical cannabis patients to the "Pain patient Bill of right" is only right and just.

The original intent of the medical program was to aide patients with chronic and debilitating conditions. It specifically includes the pain patient. It was set up to help patients, not exclude them from equal medical rights. Only a physician can be the judge when it comes to a patient's condition.

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I respectfully ask for you to support the inclusion of the Medical Cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:36 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** peacesubhadra@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Corcoran  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [peacesubhadra@gmail.com](mailto:peacesubhadra@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:  
Please be compassionate and support this measure.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:44 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** framoda@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ramoda Anand  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [framoda@yahoo.com](mailto:framoda@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

**Comments:**

I support this bill. I would like to urge you to pass this bill out of committee. I wish that it would be legal, medical marijuana. Even Dr. Oz supports the medical use of marijuana. So please do the right thing. Goodbye and Aloha Ramoda.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 12:07 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** alohalways@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Tanja  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [alohalways@gmail.com](mailto:alohalways@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 12:08 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** douglas@tychism.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Douglas  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [douglas@tychism.com](mailto:douglas@tychism.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:



**SUPPORT SB2262**

I strongly support SB 2262: I have been a Hawaii Resident since 2001 and a Medical Marijuana patient since 2006. I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis in 2003 and began treatment using Prednisone & Methotrexate prescription drugs prescribed by my Arthritis doctor. The first year on these drugs I have to admit, I felt better. Not so much going into the second year. Not only did I gain a lot of weight due to the drugs, but they just were not working. My Arthritis doctor tried several other alternative prescription drugs but they either made me really sick or just plain did not work. So I went back on the Prednisone/ Methotrexate combination , by the advice of my doctor, for another year but I did not feel any improvement. While on all of these different drugs I also had to be checked monthly to make sure none of them were damaging my liver or any other vital organs. I chose to seek out alternative methods to help me with my disease. Please try and understand, who better to understand my pain and disease, than myself and what works and what does not. I chose a natural alternative of Medical Marijuana in addition to natural herbal vitamins that I take daily without any side effects and believe that this was the best decision I could make. It helps me deal with this ugly disease that I have and be a functional citizen.

I respectfully ask for you to support the inclusion of the Medical Cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Nelson

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 1:08 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** mck0714@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Maggie Kramp  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [mck0714@yahoo.com](mailto:mck0714@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

I'm a sixty-five year old law abiding, tax paying American citizen and Hawaii resident. I do not use cannabis recreationally or medicinally, but I feel strongly that the prohibition of cannabis in the State of Hawaii is misguided, hypocritical and unfair, especially in light of our sanctioning of regulated alcohol consumption.

Our current cannabis laws criminalize and harden many innocent people, adding hundreds of thousands of dollars in law enforcement, prosecution and incarceration costs to our state budget. When cannabis is legalized and regulated, it will lift the enormous burden of these unnecessary costs from Hawaiian taxpayers and establish a significant and much needed new state tax revenue base.

Do we look back and regret repealing Federal and State prohibition of selling and consuming alcohol, a far more deadly and often family-wrecking substance? No, of course not. Alcoholic beverages have been embraced as an accepted, even respectable aspect of modern living around the world.

The irrational stigmatization of cannabis has got to end. Yes, cannabis will be abused if legalized, just as alcohol and many other legal substances are abused. Decriminalize cannabis, regulate it and tax it.

Supporting SB2262, SB2406 and SB2405 and helping those for whom cannabis offers many direct

medical benefits and relief from pain, both physical and emotional, is the least we can do to keep us moving forward as a state.

Thank you for your intelligent rational consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Thomas

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 1:30 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** cosmiccasita@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Cheri Phillips  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: cosmiccasita@gmail.com  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

as a medical Cannabis patient... i would not be able to survive much less thrive without MM...it controls the nausea and helps with pain control in a Natural way, rather than addictive chemicals... as cannabis is Non addictive!!  
it has been proved the healing properties of cannabis, and "Government" suppresses cures to continue to line the pockets of Big Pharma...& decrease the population thru subtle poisons... like Flouride!!

So are you for the people who you agreed to support?? or are you for Big Pharma... the war on Drugs is a JOKE.... our entire system is corrupt... and that probably includes you...??

vote for the healing rights of all of us who continue to be poisoned by the medical system.

here are some accounts from others who are not so highly charged about this!... thanks for reading and voting to legalize something less harmful than alcohol!

Sandy Webb, RN  
73-993 Ahikawa St  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
Strong Support of SB 2262

I have worked as a health-care professional for over 30 years (ICU, ER, Radiology, and education). I have never seen the rights of a patient so blatantly ignored and harassed as in the specialty of Medical Cannabis. As a nurse I am a patient advocate, standing up for and speaking up for all patient populations. That is why I strongly support SB 2262. The addition of Medical cannabis patients to the "Pain patient Bill of right" is only right and just. The original intent of the medical program was to aide patients with chronic and debilitating conditions. It specifically includes the pain patient. It was set up to help patients, not exclude them from equal medical rights. Only a physician can be the judge when it comes to a patient's condition.

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I respectfully ask for you to support the inclusion of the Medical Cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Mahalo

STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 2262

As a physician with over 35 years of experience in Emergency Medicine and Urgent Care, I have great respect for the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights (2008), in which acute and chronic pain patients are guaranteed the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities". Unfortunately, pain patients using medical cannabis legally in Hawaii are still subjected to bias and discrimination and are treated as second class citizens:

1) Medical cannabis patients are not allowed to travel inter-island with their pain medication, yet all other controlled substances are allowed.

2) Pain patients deserve to be liberated from the terrorism of dangerously low-flying helicopters with machine guns. Why are we wasting millions of dollars just to give patients PTSD?

3) The over-seeing Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) treats all patients as criminal suspects and continually asserts that patients "abuse" the system. For example, the NED is currently pushing bills such as HB 1963 which would remove 90% of chronic pain patients from medical cannabis certification and instantly turn them into criminals if they used their medication. This would force many pain patients to return to deadly and addicting (but legal) opioids such as Oxycontin. Pain patients deserve the right to choose the far safer and less addicting treatment of medical cannabis.

4) Many pain patients can be denied on-the-job injury benefits if their urine tests positive for inactive THC metabolites left over from use as long as a month ago! Actual THC blood tests could easily test for current usage and influence, but employers always choose the completely unreliable urine test. Would you like to be charged for a DUI if you had only one beer last week and no alcohol since then? Think about it, please.

5) Cannabis is a safe medication which is relatively non-addicting and causes no violence and no known fatalities. Many scientific studies now prove that cannabis is also a very effective pain medication, especially for the most difficult to treat chronic pains such as nerve pains. Please note that the Hawaii Medical Association (HMA) passed a resolution recommending that cannabis be legalized as a Schedule III controlled substance (same as Vicodin) that could be routinely prescribed by physicians. Medical problems should be treated by physicians (not crusading law enforcement), and the physicians are telling you that cannabis should not be so restricted, but should for the benefit of mankind be made more available to patients. Please do the right thing and vote to include medical cannabis patients in the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights. Mahalo.

Charles Webb, MD

In November 2009, at age 73 my husband was diagnosed with Metastatic Prostate Cancer (Prostate cancer which spread into his bones). We are very grateful for the health team at Kaiser Permanente who have been taking great care of not only my husband but myself included. Everyone on our medical health team have been very supportive and very active in providing my husband with the utmost professional healthcare with the latest in modern technology and professional healthcare skills.

In the beginning, my husband underwent Radiation treatment for 10 straight days and the side effects were violent nausea with increased weakness, anxiety and discomfort. Because of the unbearable bone pain Will is on pain medication (Morphine), with morphine there's several side effects such as nausea, anxiety, headaches, stomach pains etc. To combat the side effects Will takes anti-anxiety pills, nausea pills, and an anti-depressant, he also takes a medication to help relieve discomfort in his digestive system. Will needed something more, something without ALL the bad side effects. We heard about the benefits of Medicinal Marijuana and did our own research and discovered that in the state of Hawaii my husband could apply for a permit to be a Medicinal Marijuana patient and finally receive help with the pain, nausea, headaches and anxiety he was experiencing due to the Metastatic Prostate Cancer and the necessary use of pain medication in this case, Morphine.

With the help of Dr. Web at the Mum clinic in Kailua-Kona, we applied for the Medicinal Marijuana Patient permit. We cannot express enough our greatest gratitude to everyone who has made this possible for us. Yes, the use of Morphine certainly helps relieve the ongoing pain my husband suffers from, AND, being able to have the right to grow our own Marijuana plants (we are allowed-4 adult plants and 3 baby plants), using Marijuana has taken the edge off of the almost unbearable anxiety, it has helped to relieve his headaches, and it has brought helped to encourage his appetite. We have not experienced any BAD side effects using Medicinal Marijuana, it doesn't have the BAD side effects that Morphine causes which results in having to take more medications to combat the side effects that come with it. Along our journey of having to live with cancer we are grateful for all the resources that we have been privileged to receive at Kaiser Permanente, the MUM Clinic with Dr. Web, other Healthcare services and agencies such as the American Cancer Association, our dear family and friends, our Church family. We are in our third year of Persevering through the tough storms in life. We have no complaints only gratitude. We DO NOT take for granted our right to participate in becoming one of many patients and peoples who are in NEED of Medicinal Marijuana.

Needless to say, my husband Will and I do STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2262. We hope that the Voice of the People in Hawaii will be heard by our Leaders in Senate and that they too will support SB2262. Thank you very much for your time and great efforts in representing Hawaii in Truth, Integrity and Compassion.

Sincerely,

Will & Hannah Kirn

February 13, 2012

To: Members of the committee(s) on PGM/HTH  
From: Kevin Baiko, M.D.  
RE: SB2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights  
Hearing: February 15, 2:45 p.m., Room 229, 3 copies  
Position: Support

I am testifying today in support of SB2262 Relating to *Pain Patients Bill of Rights*. Cannabis is a great option in the treatment of pain. If science and compassion are to be considered as the basis of Hawaii's *Pain Patient's Bill of Rights*, then pain patients who utilize cannabis to treat their symptoms should be afforded the same protections as those who don't.

I successfully treat many chronic pain patients (or rather, my *written certification* enables many chronic pain patients to successfully treat themselves) with medical cannabis. Many come year after year for recertification so they can continue to use cannabis as their medicine with state sanction. Again and again, I witness their tales of success unfold before me – how medical cannabis alleviates their pain more successfully and with less side effects than the best that the conventional pharmaceuticals available. They tell me how they prefer the safety and trustworthiness of their natural medicine (cannabis).

Consider one disabled veteran in chronic low back pain. His V.A. medical doctors now provide his pain medication prescriptions in full knowledge that he uses cannabis also - to more effectively treat his pain. This man lives on a very limited budget, but his medical cannabis is affordable because he can grow it for himself.

Consider one young woman who suffers menstrual cramps so incapacitating that they lay her up in bed for days on end. She confides that all the narcotic pain medications her family physician prescribes are too mind altering for her to function. Better than any other substance, cannabis alleviates her painful cramping, enabling her to care for her family and work during her period.

Consider one middle aged woman with crippling arthritis in her hands. The arthritis is so bad that her finger joints are swollen and deformed. The pain in her hands renders daily chores painful, if not impossible, and sleep difficult. Cannabis alleviates her pain enough to take care of herself and get a healthy night's rest.

Consider one young man with ulcerative colitis, a condition similar to Crohn's disease that can cause severe abdominal pain, nausea, malnutrition, bleeding and whose chronic inflammation can even lead to colon cancer if left untreated. This patient is able to manage most of his symptoms on cannabis alone, allowing him to avoid the very dangerous drugs his doctors used to prescribe him (such as long term prednisone.)



The science accumulating on medical cannabis over the last ten years backs the stories of these patients up. Study after study proves cannabis to be far safer than aspirin, ibuprofen, hydrocodone, oxycodone, methadone and pretty much every other pain or muscle relaxant medication routinely prescribed. Cannabis does NOT lead to addiction like opiate based medications, and it actually helps alleviate many of the side effects caused by such medications.

Despite being a great and often superior option in the treatment of pain, cannabis is often regarded in public policy with a double standard. Many pain patients, even those who participate in Hawaii's medical cannabis program, are regarded by law enforcement with suspicion and treated as if they are somehow less honorable for not using standard prescribed pain medications. Now, of course, patients who prefer such prescriptions are also prone to discrimination and judgmental abuse, which is the rationale behind the *Pain Patients Bill of Rights* in the first place, yah?

Let's give good people who chose an effective natural medicine (cannabis) to treat their pain, a fair shake. Please support SB2622.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Baiko, M.D.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 10:03 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** keithrobinson@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Keith Robinson  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [keithrobinson@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:keithrobinson@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:24 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** rmiller@aya.yale.edu  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Richard S. Miller, Prof. of Law, Emer.  
Organization:  
E-mail: [rmiller@aya.yale.edu](mailto:rmiller@aya.yale.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

**Comments:**

I strongly support SB 2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights. Cannabis has been proven to be effective in the treatment of pain and has helped patients reduce their use of more dangerous prescription drugs. Medical treatment should be between a patient and a physician, and not second-guessed by law enforcement. Pain Patients' Bill of Rights (2008), guarantees acute and chronic pain patients the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities;" medical cannabis patients deserve this right.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 11:28 PM  
To: PGM Testimony  
Cc: tarmillei@yahoo.com  
Subject: Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Tracy Armillei  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [tarmillei@yahoo.com](mailto:tarmillei@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

As a medical marijuana patient of 4 years, I strongly support SB 2262.

I have been successfully managing chronic shoulder pain from a torn rotator cuff - an injury I sustained from an automobile accident when a drunk driver decided she should make a left turn across 3 lanes of 65 mph traffic. I couldn't stop in time and hit her dead on. Lucky for me I had an airbag.

I was first prescribed other pain medications (oxycontin, vicoden, ibuprofen 800 & others). While they did ease pain, they caused extreme nausea and I could barely stay awake and function on them: My experience with medical marijuana for pain has been nothing but positive. No negative side effects. I am grateful to have a choice to alternative medicine. Please support the addition of the medical cannabis patient to the Hawaii Pain Patient Bill of Rights.

Mahalo...Tracy Armillei

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 12:08 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nimo1767@mail.com](mailto:nimo1767@mail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of SB 2262

Let me start by giving you a little history about myself. I have severe arthritis, I was diagnosed early in my life at least 20 years ago. I have used every drug my doctor can think of to try and treat the swelling and severe pain, but it is a degenerative disease and has gotten progressively worse. As most of us know most narcotics are addicting and can be very dangerous like Oxycontin, Vicaden, ect. they are responsible for roughly 15,000 accidental deaths every year. Cannabis on the contrary is so much safer there has never been an overdose or adverse reaction death. Think about that seriously for a minute yet here we are doctors and patients again fighting for the right to use the safest medicine available to treat my disease. You would think the opposite would be the case but the reality is I can get narcotics prescribed for my condition any time, its that bad. Ironically it's only cannabis the safest drug that works that is a problem. That is very odd to me.

Pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs)like Vioxx, declofenac, Meloxicam, or Celebrax are in fact extremely dangerous. I have used them all. They can cause kidney failure even heart attacks and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers). They all affect my stomach in a negative way, I even tried a topical declofenec cream but it just doesn't work. Cannabis on the other hand works extremely well for me and I have not had any side effects or adverse reactions to it. My doctor has tried every drug he could come up with and hands down cannabis is the one that not only works but it;s safe. I worry when ever I have to take anything else. I am 56 years old, my peace of mind and quality of life are so much better with cannabis that it enables me enjoy life a lot more. You can not put a price on that at my age.

Why are patients who use medical cannabis denied the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain?

When I travel my arthritis comes with me, just as some one with any other disease. I can not leave it home or turn it off. Why am I singled out and discriminated against, even arrested because I need to bring my medication along just as patients using other controlled substances do when they travel within the state with their medication? Why are my civil rights selectively suspended because of the medication my doctor recommends? What am I suppose to do? Risk the side effects or even death for the other drugs I am allowed to travel with? Live in severe pain or break the law? Those are the only three options available. What would you do?

This is one of the great civil right battles of our time in Hawaii. The right a to real patient doctor relationship free of state interference. The right to use what by all accounts is the safest drug to treat my arthritis, and the right to take my medication with me when I travel with out fear of being arrested.

The right to manage my disease under a doctors care in the way that we decide is the most effective and safe manner.

Thank you for considering what I said today. We are going on 13 years with this program. It is time to get past the stigma and do what is best for the people that can replace addictive and dangerous narcotics or NSAIDS with cannabis. Please do not punish us all for what a few may do. Prescription drugs are abused on a huge scale yet patients that use those drugs are not singled out ostracized, or punished.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 12:20 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: nimo1767@mail.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha thank you for the chance to testify in opposition to HB 2600

As a patient that used marijuana to control chronic pain due to arthritis for ten years all I can say is it's a god send. I used Vioxx, Celebrex, declofenec, and every other pill imaginable for years and am lucky to be alive. I had so many reactions to those pills it almost killed me. I find marijuana to be very effective in relieving my pain and safe. As an adult that has a business that requires me to move around a lot I am incensed that there are people that for some reason just can not let me and my doctor make the medical decisions necessary about what works for me. How dare anyone interfere or imply I am faking it, what is wrong with people like that? Weren't they taught to respect us seniors?

My arthritis is well documented going back more than ten years. I can barley walk without the marijuana and they want to take it away. The government regulation already makes it very hard to get and treats me like a criminal making me get a license and fill out paperwork.

They will give me deadly addictive narcotics anytime I like but for the much safer marijuana it is almost impossible. Why? It is safe, I used it for years, I know more about it after that long than people that have never even tried it.

Who ever is responsible for this bill should be ashamed, I am 56 years old and marijuana works for me. Leave me alone, I am not a criminal and do not need you putting your nose in my private medical decisions. My doctor is Ernest Bade a well known and respected doctor.

This is another attempt by law enforcement to shut down the medical cannabis program in Hawai'i by fundamentally changing registration requirements for physicians who recommend medical cannabis, but not other controlled substances. It targets medical cannabis for even harsher penalties than other controlled substances. It would also effectively ban house calls, and a physician's right to speak freely with patients. I can barley walk at times why are you trying to make life worse than it already is?

Trying to limit the free speech of a physician when they discuss medical cannabis may be unconstitutional.

Law enforcement should not be interfering in doctor patient relationships and information exchanges. Certainly not directing how doctors practice medicine by severely restricting where they can see patients. Eliminating the ability of a doctor to make a house call to a

seriously ill patient by requiring additional registration is contrary to the goal of the medical cannabis program, which is compassion.

This is the 21st century not the middle ages stop the draconian micro managing of my personal health care decisions. As a taxpayer you all work for me is this how you repay me for giving you a job?

Updating the Hawai'i Uniform Controlled Substance Act (chapter 329) to be consistent with the Federal Controlled Substance Act might eliminate medical cannabis, which is not recognized by the Federal government. Instead you should immediately petition the federal to reclassify marijuana. It has been legal medicine here since 1999 so it does not meet the federal definition of a schedule one drug. The CSA definition of a schedule one drug states it has no known medical use in the united states. The fact you are having this hearing and discussing the rules for "medical marijuana" proves it does not now meet and has not met the required definition of a schedule one drug for at least 12 years. At least 15 other states and the district of Columbia also have medical marijuana programs, The federal government itself dispenses medical marijuana to a number of patients with glaucoma and has for years. The federal government has in fact patented marijuana for medical use.

There is ample and overwhelming proof that marijuana is used medically in the United States and is recognized as such. Again I ask you to immediately direct the Attorney General of the state of Hawaii to petition the federal government to correct the gross classifications of marijuana as a schedule one drug and move it to a schedule that it meets the defined requirements of.

The Hawai'i Medical Association recommends cannabis be lowered to a schedule III drug, because of the safe nature of cannabis. The Federal government is not scheduling cannabis appropriately. 16 states recognize cannabis as medicine, and the Federal government should not interfere with states' rights.

Thank you for giving what I have said due consideration and please kill this oppressive, poorly conceived and written legislation.

Robert Petricci  
Po box 2011  
Pahoa, hi, 96778

Do you really want to reduce drug use? Why not do what works?

Ten Years After Decriminalization, Drug Abuse Down by Half in Portugal

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/erikkain/2011/07/05/ten-years-after-decriminalization-drug-abuse-down-by-half-in-portugal/>



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 3:15 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** lawinski@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position:  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Christopher Lawinski, MD  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [lawinski@gmail.com](mailto:lawinski@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs). Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

This statement is validated and summarized in the Institute of Medicine Report, "Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base." As a practicing physician I believe it is unconscionable to deny chronic pain patients this medicine.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 7:05 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** konabakers@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Richard Baker  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [konabakers@gmail.com](mailto:konabakers@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

In 2008 the Hawai'i Pain Patient's Bill of Rights passed, in which acute and chronic pain patients are guaranteed the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities." By specifically including the medical use of marijuana in the Patient's Pain Bill of Rights, it confirms a patient's right to choose what works best for them and will help strengthen the medical marijuana program.

Reasons to support SB 2262

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs). Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 7:11 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** michaellatimore@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: michael wayne latimore  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [michaellatimore@yahoo.com](mailto:michaellatimore@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Patients should have rights that are afforded to them, the same for any medication or treatment program which a doctor has determined in there decesion to treat medical conditions.

Patients rights should always be supported.

michael w. latimore

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 7:38 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** suzzana@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Mary S. Goodwin  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [suzzana@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:suzzana@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I have lived with increasing chronic pain for 25 years. When I was using pain pills my life was a mess; they compromised my health and my ability to do most anything. Since the legalization of cannabis I have a much more healthy productive lifestyle. Thanks for making it possible for me to ease the terrible pain without putting myself into the grave with chemical pain pills.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 7:48 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** randomnesskypie@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Pam Brewer-Fink  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [randomskypie@yahoo.com](mailto:randomskypie@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

I am 62yrs old who uses cannabis for my sciatica problem & for arthritis in my hand. It is beyond me that legislators, who have NO medical training, are trying to play Doctor with our health. Just because you may not believe in the program, that does not mean they people YOU represent may not either... you are not trained to be the spokesman between a Dr. & his patient! Cannabis WORKS for me, & I do not CHOOSE to take those toxic drugs- that can damage my liver & kidneys. So why are you choosing to go after a small minority of people that is doing nothing to hurt the society, but just trying to make it through their day without PAIN!! Should this be a crime!! go after 'crack', or guns dealers that sell to criminals! that should be your priority- not spending thousands of \$\$ a day flying in the skies like a war zone!! Use your time & our tax money on real issues that harm society- not cannabis patients that just trying to live gently.....

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 8:16 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** mwalkercook@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Jan Walker-Cook  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: mwalkercook@aol.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Distinguished Chairman/Chairwoman/Committee:

I am a diagnosed liver cancer patient who also suffers from cirrhosis and advanced stage gastric diseases. I am a registered medical marijuana patient in the State of Hawaii and permanent resident of Ewa Beach. I write in support of SB2262 which is scheduled for hearing on February 15, 2012 @ 2:45 PM in Room 229 PGM/HTH at the State Legislature.

I am a 27 year public servant of D.C. and the Federal Gov't and I live permanently in Ewa Beach. I support the Patient's Bill of Rights Amendment as embodied in SB2262 and am a terminally ill cancer patient who uses marijuana and cannaboids successfully to combat my aggressive liver cancer and its horrific symptomology including multiple regimens of chemotherapy and immunotherapy to preserve and extend my life at present. I attach for the committee's consideration the following scientific studies and facts in FAVOR of keeping medical marijuana legal, accessible and humanely possible for suffering terminally ill and chronically ill patients such as myself. Please understand fully that I am arguing as strenuously for the patients who suffer chronic pain that does not necessarily mean that they are diseased in nature, but they and their doctors can document the manifest suffering and disease symptomology that cannaboids lend care and mitigate suffering. In the event that HB 2600 or any of its "versions" becomes law, I would join the proposed citizen class action lawsuit against the proposed new law.

I would be remiss at this time not to mention STRONGLY to this legislative body that Hawaii ranks low in healthcare standards for the nation and this legislature would do far better to IMPROVE HEALTHCARE FOR THE INSURED AND UNINSURED in Hawaii and that includes the lack of specialized healthcare professionals (doctors of differing specialties), establishing organ transplant systems, keeping your hospitals from being padlocked and patients dumped out on the street, criminalizing the homeless populations and other at-risk groups as well who are all suffering lackof healthcare and other basic needs. None of you legislators are addressing these ongoing socio-economic needed reforms and you are all to be shamed for not addressing them because that is a dereliction of your duty as public servants of Hawaii to all Hawaiians.

Before I include my scientific studies I mention the existence of HB2600 which I wholly oppose and which is currently on the fast-track for passage on the other side of the Legislature. It is a bad and ill thought out measure that will not withstand Hawaiian constitutional muster. However the Patient's Bill of Rights is in keeping with the proud and meritorious tradition of compassion, tolerance and sympathy that our state exemplifies to

ourselves and to the outside world. With all due respect and regard, I ask this Honorable Legislature, before you pass yet another unconstitutional law, consider well that Hawaii is not headed in a democratic blue state direction as President Obama would support but you are acting like GOP controlled red states where business and monied interests control all and that is in direct contravention to Hawaii's proud and distinguished history of justice, temperance and fairness. I invoke all ancient laws and standing law of Hawaii in support of SB2262.

In the past seven years, five scientific journals published prominent articles trumpeting cannabinoids (compounds in marijuana) as potential anti-cancer agents including the National Institutes of Health Oncology Journal, the New England Journal of Medicine, the Harvard Journal of Medicine, the Virginia Medical Society Journal of Medicine and the National Cancer Society 2011 Yearly Journal. I include some key historic and recent extracts for your immediate review --

These include:

- Clinical trial data published in January 2003 issue of the Journal of the American Society of Clinical Investigation that found cannabinoids significantly inhibit skin tumor growth in mice. Investigators of the study concluded, "The present data indicate that local cannabinoids administration may constitute an alternative therapeutic approach for the treatment of non-melanoma skin cancer."
- Clinical trial data published in the March 2003 issue of The FASEB Journal that found that the "local administration of a non-psychoactive cannabinoid inhibits angiogenesis (tissue growth) of malignant gliomas (brain tumors)."
- A clinical review in the October 2003 issue of the prestigious journal Nature Reviews Cancer that concluded that cannabinoids' "favorable drug safety profile" and proven ability to inhibit tumor growth make them desirable agents in the treatment of cancer. According to the review's author, tumors inhibited by cannabinoids include: lung carcinoma, glioma, thyroid epithelioma, lymphoma/leukemia, skin carcinoma, uterus carcinoma, breast carcinoma, prostate carcinoma, and neuroblastoma (a malignant tumor originating in the autonomic nervous system or the adrenal medulla and occurring chiefly in infants and young children).
- Clinical trial data published in the November 2003 issue of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics that found the administration of the cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) inhibits the growth of human glioma cells both in vitro (e.g., a petri dish) and in animals in a dose-dependent manner. Investigators concluded, "Non-psychoactive CBD produce[s] a significant antitumor activity both in vitro and in vivo, thus suggesting a possible application of CBD as an antineoplastic agent (something which prevents the growth of malignant cells.)"
- And finally, a clinical review in the December 2003 issue of the journal Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Targets that summarized "the demonstrated antitumor actions of cannabinoids," and elaborated on "possible avenues for the future development of cannabinoids as antitumor agents."
- In 2011 after nearly 13 years of clinical trials, researchers at Madrid, Spain's Complutense University, School of Biology have not only generously picked up where U.S. researchers so abruptly left off but continued necessary clinical trials that show efficacy of cannabinoids over lymphoma and other cancers. In 1998, the research team - led by investigator Manuel Guzman - discovered that THC can selectively induce program cell death in brain tumor cells without negatively impacting the surrounding healthy cells. Then in 2000, Guzman's team reported in the journal Nature Medicine that injections of synthetic THC eradicated malignant gliomas (brain tumors) in one-third of treated rats, and prolonged life in another third by six weeks. A commentary to the study noted that the results were the first to convincingly demonstrate that cannabis-based treatments may successfully combat cancer.
- Today, Guzman believes that enough favorable clinical evidence exists supporting pot's anti-cancer properties to warrant clinical trials in humans. "The scientific community has gained substantial knowledge of the palliative and anti-tumor actions of

cannabinoids during the past few years,&quot; Guzman wrote in the October 2003 issue of Nature Reviews Cancer. &quot;Anti-tumor compounds should selectively affect tumor cells [and] it seems that cannabinoids can do this, as they kill [malignant] tumor cells but do not affect their non-transformed counterparts and might even protect them from cell death. ... As cannabinoids are relatively safe compounds, it would be desirable that clinical trials using cannabinoids ... could accompany [ongoing] laboratory studies to allow us to use these compounds in the treatment of cancer.&quot; Guzman concludes the article by noting that the Spanish Ministry of Health recently approved a human clinical trial - the first ever - aimed at investigating the effects of intracranially administered THC on the life expectancy of volunteers suffering from malignant brain tumors.

- &quot;Cannabinoid research continues to show tremendous potential in the treatment of cancer,&quot; summarizes University of Southern California professor Mitch Earleywine, author of the book Understanding Marijuana: A New Look at the Scientific Evidence. However, he laments that the &quot;vast majority of this work originates outside the United States, often in countries that lack our economic and scientific advantages. Let's hope that our drug policy won't stymie the battle against the second leading cause of death in America.&quot;

- Indeed. Let's not add a potential treatment for cancer to the ever-growing list of victims of medical marijuana prohibition, let us be the solution to cancer patients' most sincere hopes -- to extend and benefit their lives beyond a debilitating disease that steals everything from the patient including their physicality, their mental prowess, their dignity, their independence, sometimes their very voices and other senses.

I ask this Legislative Body the House to pass SB2262 and reiterate my vigorous opposition to HB 2600 in its entirety and with its Amendments especially Section 4 on behalf of all medical marijuana patients with diagnosed substantive illnesses in the State of Hawaii today. Thank you for including my comments to your review.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]  
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 8:41 AM  
To: PGM Testimony  
Cc: mark@solights.com  
Subject: Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Mark Nelson  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: mark@solights.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I am a medical Marijuana Patient from Hawaii Island. I am 53 years of age, with a college degree. and I support SB2262. I have been a Hawaii Island resident since 1975. I was injured by a Drunken Crane Operator 13 years ago, I have had 6 major surgeries. PAIN, yes I have Pain & I was prescribed Vioxx Bextra, Protonix, for 5 years and the most devastating after effects of these drugs have left my body in a state of quagmire. I am able to choose my way of managing my daily constant pain with medical marijuana and have become a very productive business owner and employer. The Vioxx & Bextra did not, and was removed from the Market after causing many thousands of deaths. Since I did not have an actual "Heart Attack" from these drugs, I was not a part of the Billion Dollar Class Action Lawsuit.

I ask the Hawaii Legislatures this. What gives you the right to override a Physicians recommendation or diagnosis? You do not have this right!!!

I want to see your Doctoral Degree in Medicine please. Why then has 9 out of 12 Hawaii Medical Board members approved and recommended that Cannabis be removed from a Schedule 1 and re scheduled as a Schedule 3?

What gives you this right?

What are you even thinking?

By CDC statistics prescription pain medicines deaths are 26,000 a year. Most of these being from Opioid pain relievers. CDC statistics are 120,000 in USA go to the emergency rooms every year with overdoses on these PAIN PILLS. Not one from Cannabis. So go ahead and make someones day and continue to assist in killing thousands of people with the "pain medications" that kill. Have a nice day.

These are just a few questions you need to ask yourselves before you decide to exclude a pain patient's right to protection under the law.

1. How would you like to experience daily severe/ chronic pain without the right to choice of treatment options?
2. Would you like it if you were forced to use a medicine that causes dependence, constipation and addiction (like Oxycontin)? Has side effects that cause bleeding ulcers (like the non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, aspirin, Advil and Aleve)? When there is a perfectly safe and effective alternative that you much prefer using and has been legal for use in the state of Hawaii for 12 years?

I urge the Hawaii Legislatures to use their brains that GOD gave you and utilize them. But not to keep killing people as you have and continue to do so with these archaic laws and new twists in ammedments to the already exisiting laws passed. Shame on you all for even considering such absolute.

Mark Nelson  
Kailua-Kona Hawaii

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:00 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** ceomendy@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Melynda Dant  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ceomendy@mac.com](mailto:ceomendy@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

I support this bill. The healthier, natural pain reliever is appreciated. Please support our medical choices by supporting this bill.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:03 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** gardengreen@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: James Weatherford  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [gardengreen@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:gardengreen@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

I am a 60-year old veteran of the armed forces, diagnosed with chronic pain from arthritis affecting joints throughout my body.  
Use of medical cannabis allows me to continue to function without chronic pain and without the negative effects of synthetic drugs.  
Please pass Senate Bill 2262.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:10 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nimo1767@mail.com](mailto:nimo1767@mail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of SB 2262

Let me start by giving you a little history about myself. I have severe arthritis, I was diagnosed early in my life at least 20 years ago. I have used every drug my doctor can think of to try and treat the swelling and severe pain, but it is a degenerative disease and has gotten progressively worse. As most of us know most narcotics are addicting and can be very dangerous like Oxycontin, Vicaden, ect. they are responsible for roughly 15,000 accidental deaths every year. Cannabis on the contrary is so much safer there has never been an overdose or adverse reaction death. Think about that seriously for a minute yet here we are doctors and patients again fighting for the right to use the safest medicine available to treat my disease. You would think the opposite would be the case but the reality is I can get narcotics prescribed for my condition any time, its that bad. Ironically it's only cannabis the safest drug that works that is a problem. That is very odd to me.

Pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs)like Vioxx, declofenac, Meloxicam, or Celebrax are in fact extremely dangerous. I have used them all. They can cause kidney failure even heart attacks and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers). They all affect my stomach in a negative way, I even tried a topical declofenec cream but it just doesn't work. Cannabis on the other hand works extremely well for me and I have not had any side effects or adverse reactions to it. My doctor has tried every drug he could come up with and hands down cannabis is the one that not only works but it;s safe. I worry when ever I have to take anything else. I am 56 years old, my peace of mind and quality of life are so much better with cannabis that it enables me enjoy life a lot more. You can not put a price on that at my age.

Why are patients who use medical cannabis denied the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain?

When I travel my arthritis comes with me, just as some one with any other disease. I can not leave it home or turn it off. Why am I singled out and discriminated against, even arrested because I need to bring my medication along just as patients using other controlled substances do when they travel within the state with their medication? Why are my civil rights selectively suspended because of the medication my doctor recommends? What am I suppose to do? Risk the side effects or even death for the other drugs I am allowed to travel with? Live in severe pain or break the law? Those are the only three options available. What would you do?

This is one of the great civil right battles of our time in Hawaii. The right a to real patient doctor relationship free of state interference. The right to use what by all accounts is the safest drug to treat my arthritis, and the right to take my medication with me when I travel with out fear of being arrested.

The right to manage my disease under a doctors care in the way that we decide is the most effective and safe manner.

Thank you for considering what I said today. We are going on 13 years with this program. It is time to get past the stigma and do what is best for the people that can replace addictive and dangerous narcotics or NSAIDS with cannabis. Please do not punish us all for what a few may do. Prescription drugs are abused on a huge scale yet patients that use those drugs are not singled out ostracized, or punished.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:42 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** bmurphy420@msn.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Brian Murphy  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [bmurphy420@msn.com](mailto:bmurphy420@msn.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I support SB 2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights. Cannabis has been proven to be effective in the treatment of pain and has helped patients reduce their use of more dangerous prescription drugs. Medical treatment should be between a patient and a physician, and not second-guessed by law enforcement. Pain Patients' Bill of Rights (2008), guarantees acute and chronic pain patients the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities;" medical cannabis patients deserve this right.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:44 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** theede@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Teri Heede  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [theede@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:theede@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

DATE: Wednesday, February 15, 2012  
TIME: 2:45 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 2262

When I was first treated as a disabled vet with orthopedic issues, I took a ship load of NSAIDs. Now I have no stomach lining and esophagus problems. When I first started being treated for MS, back then they said there was no "pain" associated with it. Now the doctors are sure there is pain and they gave me a ship load of pain killers that caused me to have migraines and cluster headaches. Every pill came with another pill for side effects and eventually the doctor's were prescribing self injectable medication (which destroyed my liver and caused another prescription for Valium due to the seizures the shot caused).

I cannot emphasize enough that law enforcement's objection to Medical Cannabis is grounded in fear and misinformation. They will testify before you again and again and tell you how patients are a problem. Law Enforcement is going around to Rotary Club meetings, flashing my picture and making every effort to demonize a sick person in the public eye. Patients prescribed for pain deserve job protection like every patient with prescribed medication. We all deserve to travel safely within our state without fear of persecution. STOP the demonizing of patients. Don't deny people a manageable, safe alternative to a prescription solution.

Mahalo ahead of time for your cooperation and understanding,

Teri Heede



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:42 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** renwalker@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: H.A. "Ren"; Walker iii  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [renwalker@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renwalker@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

i am a 64 year old male and have had 14 operations on my legs, and have had some auto accidents that have taken 2 inches out of my spine, height wise, and both hurt pretty much all the time, every step. i am allergic to anything above codeine, and when i have had med procedures, they need to remember to use the "anti nausea" agent or i get sick then too. i take advil and doc says i am taking too much...i use ice packs every day for back and leg (knees and ankles) pain and have odd and even number packs to be sure they get cold enough... i smoke marijuana because it makes me think of something else besides the pain. it seems funny that yet another hollywood figure has died probably from prescription drugs, and yet the govt would rather have us take the hard stuff, and risk death rather than smoke an ancient remedy, whose only liability is raiding the fridge... pain is a legitimate problem for people and only gets worse as we get older...so please show some compassion when you hear the drug companies recommend total ban of med use marijuana...mahalo and aloha, ren walker

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:11 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nimo1767@mail.com](mailto:nimo1767@mail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of SB 2262

Let me start by giving you a little history about myself. I have severe arthritis, I was diagnosed early in my life at least 20 years ago. I have used every drug my doctor can think of to try and treat the swelling and severe pain, but it is a degenerative disease and has gotten progressively worse. As most of us know most narcotics are addicting and can be very dangerous like Oxycontin, Vicaden, ect. they are responsible for roughly 15,000 accidental deaths every year. Cannabis on the contrary is so much safer there has never been an overdose or adverse reaction death. Think about that seriously for a minute yet here we are doctors and patients again fighting for the right to use the safest medicine available to treat my disease. You would think the opposite would be the case but the reality is I can get narcotics prescribed for my condition any time, its that bad. Ironically it's only cannabis the safest drug that works that is a problem. That is very odd to me.

Pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs) like Vioxx, declofenac, Meloxicam, or Celebrax are in fact extremely dangerous. I have used them all. They can cause kidney failure even heart attacks and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers). They all affect my stomach in a negative way, I even tried a topical declofenec cream but it just doesn't work. Cannabis on the other hand works extremely well for me and I have not had any side effects or adverse reactions to it. My doctor has tried every drug he could come up with and hands down cannabis is the one that not only works but it;s safe. I worry when ever I have to take anything else. I am 56 years old, my peace of mind and quality of life are so much better with cannabis that it enables me enjoy life a lot more. You can not put a price on that at my age.

Why are patients who use medical cannabis denied the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain?

When I travel my arthritis comes with me, just as some one with any other disease. I can not leave it home or turn it off. Why am I singled out and discriminated against, even arrested because I need to bring my medication along just as patients using other controlled substances do when they travel within the state with their medication? Why are my civil rights selectively suspended because of the medication my doctor recommends? What am I suppose to do? Risk the side effects or even death for the other drugs I am allowed to travel with? Live in severe pain or break the law? Those are the only three options available. What would you do?

This is one of the great civil right battles of our time in Hawaii. The right a to real patient doctor relationship free of state interference. The right to use what by all accounts is the safest drug to treat my arthritis, and the right to take my medication with me when I travel with out fear of being arrested.

The right to manage my disease under a doctors care in the way that we decide is the most effective and safe manner.

Thank you for considering what I said today. We are going on 13 years with this program. It is time to get past the stigma and do what is best for the people that can replace addictive and dangerous narcotics or NSAIDS with cannabis. Please do not punish us all for what a few may do. Prescription drugs are abused on a huge scale yet patients that use those drugs are not singled out ostracized, or punished.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:22 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** hansen.abbey@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Abbey Golden  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [hansen.abbey@gmail.com](mailto:hansen.abbey@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I strongly support SB 2262. As a medical marijuana patient I feel my rights should be equal to the rights of patients who choose other forms of pain control.

I was prescribed pain medications for menstrual cramps since being a teenager. I have chosen to avoid most of those medications because of the potential side effects. I have a bachelors degree in nutrition and have chosen to live a healthy lifestyle and use natural medicine instead of relying on pharmaceutical drugs.

I was recently diagnosed with Crohn's disease and now more than ever I am not able to endure the gastrointestinal side effects of opioids and NSAID's. My first Crohn's flare up was 2 years ago and my last flare up, that led to my diagnosis lasted for 5 months. During that time I was acutely ill. The only way I was able to even eat during many weeks of that time period was because of my marijuana prescription. And even still I lost 20 pounds during that time. I was hospitalized and had surgery. The drugs prescribed for the pain post-surgery were opioids which cause gastrointestinal issues! Now I can tell you I've never been more thankful to have a marijuana prescription- after suffering with gastrointestinal distress for 5 months I would never at that point have taken drugs to upset my GI system. I was thankful to have that choice.

If anything, we need to be encouraging our doctors to prescribe marijuana to their patients. It is the only pain medication that has never caused a single death. Opioids cause 15,000 deaths PER YEAR. Over the counter NSAID's cause 6,000 deaths PER YEAR. Marijuana is a safe, natural medicine and patients who choose to use it should receive the same respect and rights as patients who choose to use other medicines.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:24 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** ironbaby@kona.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Dana-Welles  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ironbaby@kona.net](mailto:ironbaby@kona.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

protect cancer and pain patients from being forced use toxic legal drugs, when a mild THC alternative is available for free. THC is amazing if used appropriately.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:27 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** ironbaby@kona.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Dana-Welles  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ironbaby@kona.net](mailto:ironbaby@kona.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

protect cancer and pain patients from being forced use toxic legal drugs, when a mild THC alternative is available for free. THC is amazing if used appropriately.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:35 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** loana@pacificommbiz  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Loana English  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [loana@pacificommbiz](mailto:loana@pacificommbiz)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

From: Victor Seiler  
RE: SB2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights  
Hearing: February 15, 2:45 p.m., Room 229, 3 copies  
Position: Support

I am testifying today in support of SB2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights. Cannabis is a great option in the treatment of pain. I currently am undergoing treatment and diagnosis for neck, back and arm injury caused by repedative motion and several injuries that have been treated so far by numerous injections into my spinal tissue, and nerve endings.

The treatments are both dangerous and painful, and are not doing what they are supposed to do, as I am only receiving relief for a small number of days after the treatment.

My chronic pain is suggnificantly reduced by my legal use of Medical cannibus, which not only alievates much of the pain by relaxing the tissue and muscles around the areas effected, but also allows me to sleep at night as without it I have to lay in one specific position that causes me to wake up with complete numbness and imobility in my left hand and arm. With Medical cannabis I am able to take far less Narcotic Pain medications (Less then half) of what I was taking prescribed by my doctor, and still have very significant pain relief.

Cannabis to be far safer than aspirin, ibuprofen, hydrocodone, oxycodone, methadone and pretty much every other pain or muscle relaxant medication routinely prescribed. Cannabis does NOT lead to addiction like opiate based medications, and it actually helps alleviate many of the side effects caused by such medications.

I do not wish to be regarded by law enforcement with suspicion and treated as if they are somehow less honorable for not using standard prescribed pain medications. Now, of course, patients who prefer such prescriptions are also prone to discrimination and judgmental abuse, which is the rationale behind the Pain Patients Bill of Rights in the first place, yah?

Please support SB2622.



Sincerely,

Victor Shawn Seiler

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:44 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** wnkoenig@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Walter Koenig  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [wnkoenig@yahoo.com](mailto:wnkoenig@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha- I'm providing testimony in support of sb2262 to insure that medical marijuana keeps its chronic pain treatment status. I have suffered from lower back pain for many years. As you may know, the alternatives to treating my pain are drugs that have complex and deadly side effects. Please don't deprive me a legal path to deal with my pain safely. The evidence that cannabis treats pain has long been documented; as is the interests who want it kept illegal (cartels, drug companies) through mis-information campaigns. Please support safe access to safe medicine. Mahalo. Walter Koenig

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:45 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** wnkoenig@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Walter Koenig  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [wnkoenig@yahoo.com](mailto:wnkoenig@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha- I'm providing testimony in support of sb2262 to insure that medical marijuana keeps its chronic pain treatment status. I have suffered from lower back pain for many years. As you may know, the alternatives to treating my pain are drugs that have complex and deadly side effects. Please don't deprive me a legal path to deal with my pain safely. The evidence that cannabis treats pain has long been documented; as is the interests who want it kept illegal (cartels, drug companies) through mis-information campaigns. Please support safe access to safe medicine. Mahalo. Walter Koenig

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:10 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** mpaiello@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Michael Aiello  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [mpaiello@gmail.com](mailto:mpaiello@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

I support this bill. Cannabis has been used as a pain medication for thousands of years. The government has no business telling doctors that they can only prescribe pharmaceuticals drugs and not natural remedies that actually work with no ill effects.

No one in history has ever died from an overdose of Cannabis. It is not physically possible to die from ingesting too much Cannabis. That is a demonstrable fact. Yet many people (15,000 per year) die "accidentally" from prescribed opioids like Oxycontin and methadone - - drugs that are good for pharmaceutical companies and their lobbyists, but not necessarily for the consumers of their products

Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical drugs if they so choose. Allergic reactions to pain drugs like aspirin, advil, alleve, etc, cause 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).

Chronic pain patients who choose medical cannabis deserve the same protections as those who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.

Please pass this bill.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** jgroberts@cryptoheaven.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jeff Roberts  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [jgroberts@cryptoheaven.com](mailto:jgroberts@cryptoheaven.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:31 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** shep530125@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: John Shepard  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [shep530125@aol.com](mailto:shep530125@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

More reasons to support SB 2262 (which would include medical cannabis patients in the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights):

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 1:00 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nimo1767@mail.com](mailto:nimo1767@mail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of SB 2262

Let me start by giving you a little history about myself. I have severe arthritis, I was diagnosed early in my life at least 20 years ago. I have used every drug my doctor can think of to try and treat the swelling and severe pain, but it is a degenerative disease and has gotten progressively worse. As most of us know most narcotics are addicting and can be very dangerous like Oxycontin, Vicaden, ect. they are responsible for roughly 15,000 accidental deaths every year. Cannabis on the contrary is so much safer there has never been an overdose or adverse reaction death. Think about that seriously for a minute yet here we are doctors and patients again fighting for the right to use the safest medicine available to treat my disease. You would think the opposite would be the case but the reality is I can get narcotics prescribed for my condition any time, its that bad. Ironically it's only cannabis the safest drug that works that is a problem. That is very odd to me.

Pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs)like Vioxx, declofenac, Meloxicam, or Celebrax are in fact extremely dangerous. I have used them all. They can cause kidney failure even heart attacks and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers). They all affect my stomach in a negative way, I even tried a topical declofenec cream but it just doesn't work. Cannabis on the other hand works extremely well for me and I have not had any side effects or adverse reactions to it. My doctor has tried every drug he could come up with and hands down cannabis is the one that not only works but it;s safe. I worry when ever I have to take anything else. I am 56 years old, my peace of mind and quality of life are so much better with cannabis that it enables me enjoy life a lot more. You can not put a price on that at my age.

Why are patients who use medical cannabis denied the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain?

When I travel my arthritis comes with me, just as some one with any other disease. I can not leave it home or turn it off. Why am I singled out and discriminated against, even arrested because I need to bring my medication along just as patients using other controlled substances do when they travel within the state with their medication? Why are my civil rights selectively suspended because of the medication my doctor recommends? What am I suppose to do? Risk the side effects or even death for the other drugs I am allowed to travel with? Live in severe pain or break the law? Those are the only three options available. What would you do?

This is one of the great civil right battles of our time in Hawaii. The right a to real patient doctor relationship free of state interference. The right to use what by all accounts is the safest drug to treat my arthritis, and the right to take my medication with me when I travel with out fear of being arrested.

The right to manage my disease under a doctors care in the way that we decide is the most effective and safe manner.

Thank you for considering what I said today. We are going on 13 years with this program. It is time to get past the stigma and do what is best for the people that can replace addictive and dangerous narcotics or NSAIDS with cannabis. Please do not punish us all for what a few may do. Prescription drugs are abused on a huge scale yet patients that use those drugs are not singled out ostracized, or punished.



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:50 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** Dsusott@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Daniel Susott, MD, MPH  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: Dsusott@gmail.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I, Dr. Daniel Susott, MD, MPH, am writing in support of SB 2262

I am a medical doctor trained in Hawaii the the John A. Burns School of Medicine and have practiced medicine in Hawaii, other states, and internationally since 1979.

I have recommended cannabis to thousands of patients over many years. It is the SAFEST therapeutic substance known, as found by the DEA's own investigations which were commissioned by them and then ignored.. ¶In thousands of years of use by humans cannabis (marijuana, pakalolo, pot, ¶"weed"¶) ¶has never been linked to a single death. ¶There is no LD-50, lethal dose: you cannot feed a lab rat ( or a human) enough cannabis to kill them. ¶Aspirin and motrin alone kill ¶thousands of people worldwide. ¶In the time my grandfather, a physIcian, practiced medicine, cannabis was the most widely prescribed medication in the pharmacopeia. ¶It has a wide range of uses as medicine and is recognized thus in many states (17 at last count) ¶including Hawaii.

Time after time I hear the same story from patients: they hurt, they cannot sleep, and they would much rather use this herbal remedy than the expensive drugs prescribed by their doctors which are addictive, ineffective, and have bad side effects. ¶¶To deny patients this medicine which they can grow themselves is WRONG.

From the standpoint of public health, the prohibition of cannabis in Hawaii has resulted in an epidemic of "ice" (crystal methamphetamine) which has taken a HUGE toll on the islands, accounting for 85% crime and destroying many lives, families, and communities. ¶NIDA, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, published a study showing just this. ¶The federal policy which places cannabis on Schedule 1 of controlled substances (no medical use and highly addictive) is blatantly wrong and needs to change to reflect reality and science and thousands of years of human history.

The federal monopoly and stance on cannabis does not make sense. ¶Hawaii could be a positive force moving the United States in a more enlightened direction.¶

California, where medical marijuana has been legal a few years before Hawaii, is leading the world in its approach to cannabis. Downtown Oakland has been revitalized by money from the legal commerce in medical cannabis. When I evaluate patients in California, I meet people

from all walks of life, many with decent jobs and families, who simply want to legally obtain and use a medicine they know works better for them than pharmaceuticals their doctor prescribes. There are new strains of cannabis which are high in the natural chemical cannabinoids (CBD's) which have anti-inflammatory properties and treat pain without the euphoric effect (the "high") associated with marijuana. People can feel better and sleep easier without getting "high", more cheaply and safely than using other medicines. In California, the indications ( reasons for use) of medical cannabis include non-physical complaints ( hawaii so far only allows physical ailments) such as PTSD, insomnia, ADD, anxiety, depression, and even autism. Many veterans have found significant relief in their PTSD symptoms, as have others.

I support SB2262 for the following reasons:

In 2008 the Hawai'i Pain Patient's Bill of Rights passed, in which acute and chronic pain patients are guaranteed the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities." By specifically including the medical use of marijuana in the Patient's Pain Bill of Rights, it confirms a patient's right to choose what works best for them and will help strengthen the medical marijuana program.

1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.  
2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs). Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).  
3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.

4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.

5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Susott! MD, MPH  
2012-02-13

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to you in support of SB2262. Study after study has been shown that marijuana is helpful in reducing pain. Patients should be able to choose which medications they do or do not want to take. No one is forcing medical marijuana down anyones throats. How ever most doctor will not prescribe medical marijuana to their patients and instead prescribe opiates and only opiates. Most of us have no choice because of all the legal gray area surrounding this controversial topic. Please pass this bill

Sincerely

Jake

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 1:06 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** slavinrobert@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Slavin  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [slavinrobert@mac.com](mailto:slavinrobert@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
SECOND SUBMISSION - fist mistakenly entered as Opposed

I suffer from an array of neuropathies & paresthesias related to cervical radiculopathy. I had a subtotal meniscectomy in 1996 and suffer from knee and iliotibial band pain. Degenerative changes are occurring in my knees, neck, ankles and probably more - arthritic spurs (osteophytes). These pains can be severe and debilitating. I am a 69 year old retired teacher, and not a 'druggie' in any way; I rarely use alcohol and quit smoking cigarettes in 1979. I am educated and try to be a useful member of society, and I have found relief from a moderate use of cannabis - so much less impairing than the narcotics that my doctors prescribe. I understand that this bill is trying to remove pain as a reason to use cannabis medically. Please believe me when I say that my pain is eased by this natural substance. This is backed up by studies concluding that marijuana is effective in controlling chronic pain, and an extremely safe medication. I believe that state lawmakers should be prodding the Federal Government to change the way they are including cannabis with dangerous and addictive drugs, and not be persuaded by false propaganda. Please help.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 1:42 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** konagold@starband.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Rev. Dennis Shields  
Organization: The Religion of Jesus Church  
E-mail: [konagold@starband.net](mailto:konagold@starband.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I support SB 2262 Relating to Pain Patients Bill of Rights. Cannabis has been proven to be effective in the treatment of pain and has helped patients reduce their use of more dangerous prescription drugs. Medical treatment should be between a patient and a physician, and not second-guessed by law enforcement. Pain Patients' Bill of Rights (2008), guarantees acute and chronic pain patients the "right to request or reject all treatment modalities;" medical cannabis patients deserve this right.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 1:58 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** tripcityusa@juno.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: sheryle sultan  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [tripcityusa@juno.com](mailto:tripcityusa@juno.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I am writing in support of Bill SB2262. I suffer from chronic neck pain. Prescription drugs even aspirin is very hard on my stomach. I prefer consuming cannabis as a safe, non addicting remedy for my pain. Cannabis was wrongly put on schedule one by Richard Nixon and he was shown to be a liar and a crook why are we still following his agenda?

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 2:17 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** bobgraybosch@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Bob Graybosch  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [bobgraybosch@gmail.com](mailto:bobgraybosch@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

I am 51 years old and have suffered from chronic back and knee pain for 10 years. I have reached the point medically where only surgery is left as a choice with less than promising results. For over two years I have been taking Vicodin, Soma, and NSAIDS in an attempt to manage the pain with poor results. By the end of last year it was becoming difficult to work and function in a normal manner. Every night my sleep was disrupted by pain. I became increasingly uninterested in anything and could barely function. In January I received my first ever Medical Marijuana Card and tried it for the first time in my life. The improvement was immediate! I take the medication nightly before bed and sleep and am now sleeping through the night. My wife is amazed at the change in me and has said I am back to the man she married. I have not taken a Vicodin or Soma since and my intake of NSAIDS has gone from 6-8/day to 2-4/week. It has been an amazing transformation for me! For me Medical Marijuana has been a Godsend.

Mahalo,

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 2:25 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** fancher.richard@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Michelle Walker  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: fancher.richard@yahoo.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
Honorable Chairpersons, Committee Members:

As a permanent Federal civil servant of over 27 years who suffers from a chronic eventually terminal illness, I am writing wholly in support of SB2622. This proposed piece of legislation completes and promotes the legislative intent of the 2000 Medical Marijuana Law in view of Chapter 23-202, Hawai'i Administrative Rules for Medical Use of Marijuana, adopted December 14, 2000. In addition to the manifest clinical studies in favor of using cannabis for cancer fighting agents, for assisting terminal and chronically ill patients with chemotherapy side effects including, but not limited to, nutrition intake, nausea mgt., pain relief, anxiety relief, insomnia relief, etc., there are numerous law reviews and other scholarly legal and medical reviews that all favor the retention of the 2000 Medical Marijuana Act for all Hawaii's medical marijuana patients. A representative example of the case in favor of medical marijuana in the legal setting disputes and repudiates Honolulu Police Department's and your other stated law enforcement Hawaiian authorities' nonspecific objections in favor of re-criminalizing marijuana for all Hawaiians, medical marijuana patients and citizens alike. Necessity and medical imperative argue in strong opposition to passage of HB2600 and Section 4 that far too closely resembles CONSERVATIVES ideologic agenda nationwide including the ongoing assault on women's reproductive rights, the assault against passage of same sex civil unions, and the like. See Boston Law Journal's 2010's "Urgent Compassion: Medical Marijuana, Prosecutorial Discretion and the Medical Necessity Defense." But as a supporter of medical marijuana rights unfettered including access to pharmacy access for terminally ill and chronically ill patients should/must not be left up to LAW ENFORCEMENT who possess a tainted conflict-of-interest in this scenario. At a time when budget cuts are everpresent and the need to justify the retention of police officers on the street being pressured from within and without, sacrificing medical marijuana patients in favor of not losing police officers'/law enforcement employment at HPD and HSA are not in keeping with the compassion, empathy, tolerance and caring for each other as Hawaiians that we all inherently possess. All this proud history, these diverse human attributes of our wonderous populations who inhabit our state and the Hippocratic Oath all speak in favor of passage of SB2622.

With all this in mind I strongly support SB2622 and offer to present at open committee hearing substantive proof to wholly rebut the specious contentions that both conservative medical practitioners, some religious sects, and some elements of law enforcement advance that wrongly and without any evidentiary support suggest that medical marijuana causes any increase in crime in any of the Hawaiian Islands.



In manifest observance of the obvious competing interests on this issue -- are the 1) law enforcement communities of Hawaii none of whom ever wanted to see the passage of the Medical Marijuana Act of 2000; 2) of Hawaii's Budget makers being "concerned" that their high speed rail funds from the Federal Gov't infusion is "compromised" or "put at risk" by the retention of the current Medical Marijuana Law of 2000; and 3) Backwardly ignoring the deplorable state of substandard healthcare for insured and uninsured Hawaiian in and out patients alike in favor of sacrificing a small population of the most terminal and chronically ill patients. I say this to my Hawaiian Legislature, all the voters of Hawaii will remember the outcome of this proposed law in November 2012 when you come up for reelection or subsequently and whether you stood up for compassion and caring for patients who are suffering untold pain and anxiety and whether you caved into special interests and voted NO as a matter of political expediency. And we will remove all of you from office by our ballots because it is clear that the Hawaiian public majority at large favors compassion for medical marijuana patients and not re-criminalizing antiquated and unsound drug laws that happen to exist in other jurisdictions. Hawaii is not alone, Delaware has just passed and is already instituting a pharmacy delivery system for medical marijuana patients. Is this legislature telling the Hawaiian public at large that little Delaware with proximity to states with large presences of the vice industries (gambling, liquor, tobacco, gaming) did not ENTERTAIN the law enforcement "SPECIOUS" argument that medical marijuana has ever increased crime because there are no statistics nationally or state by state to support the contrived propagandistic lie.

In summation, I wholly support SB2622. In the instance of The Medical Marijuana Act of 2000, in view of the ferocity and spirit of meanness and direct disobedience of the medical Hippocratic Oath, for ideologues including the Tea Party and GOP in our Legislature to join forces with some members of law enforcement and some religious sects to try and undermine/repeal a just and compassionate law is untenable and will not withstand Hawaiian State Constitutional scrutiny. Please consider all of this carefully before you allow special interests to enter the discussion and don't forget the constituent seriously ill and dying medical patients whom you all represent. Thank you for hearing my comments.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 3:55 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** kthomas4567@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Daniel Thomas  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [kthomas4567@hotmail.com](mailto:kthomas4567@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Please,give the people the right to use plants as medicine as they want! NO deaths ever from Cannabis,yet over 100,000 people die each year from legal drugs .I do not want to take any of those drugs .PLEASE REPRESENT ME. VOTE YES ON SB2262 ,thank you.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 4:33 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** Barefootmd@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: James Berg, MD  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [Barefootmd@aol.com](mailto:Barefootmd@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

More reasons to support SB 2262 (which would include medical cannabis patients in the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights):

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 3:00 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** kantspel@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM  
**Attachments:** MMletter.doc

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Rick Richards  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [kantspel@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kantspel@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

February 13, 2012

Re: Medical Marijuana in Hawaii

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a sixty year old male with Ankylosing Spondylitis. Ankylosing spondylitis is a long-term disease that causes inflammation of the joints between the spinal bones, and the joints between the spine and pelvis. It eventually causes the affected spinal bones to join together. It is sometimes known as Spinal Arthritis and is a very debilitating and chronic condition. I was diagnosed at Loma Linda University Medical Center many years ago and I have suffered with this painful disease for over 25 years. Along with the spinal problems, I have peripheral joint involvement in my feet, knees, and elbows that produce painful swelling and has resulted in 10 to 20 per cent joint contractures in my left arm and both legs. I also have iritis in my right eye, which is arthritis of the iris of the eye.

Medical Marijuana is very beneficial in the treatment of my disease. I am able to get some relief from the constant pain. I usually take Medical Marijuana only in the evenings to obtain some relief from the chronic pain. As is common with chronic disease, I often suffer from major depression. Medical Marijuana helps to ease my depression also.

There is absolutely no doubt that Medical Marijuana has improved my quality of life a great deal and is an integral part of my treatment along with Bupropion, Tramadol, Carisoprodol, Cyclobenziprine, Prednisone, Cafergot and Atropine Sulfate. Some of these drugs cause stomach problems and Medical Marijuana helps combat those symptoms also.

Please don't take Medical Marijuana away from me and the thousands of other patients that benefit from it's use. Cancer, Glaucoma and many other diseases are helped by the use of Medical Marijuana. This is a known fact. The Federal Government is wrong in their statement that there are no medical uses for Marijuana. I believe this is an attempt by the big drug companies to deceive and manipulate the American Public.

If you need any further information about me or my disease, feel free to contact me and I will be happy to cooperate and help in any manner possible.

Sincerely,

Rick Richards  
82-6148 Muliwai Place  
Captain Cook, HI 96704

kantspel@hawaii.rr.com  
(808) 323-3763

TO:

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

Senator Josh Green, MD, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

**FROM: CLIFTON OTTO, MD**

HONOLULU, HI  
808-292-4951

**RE: SB 2262**

Wednesday, February 15, 2012  
2:45 PM  
Room 229

**POSITION: STRONGLY SUPPORT**

Chronic Pain results from several well documented medical conditions, and is currently treated with a variety of prescription medications that result in tens of thousands of preventable deaths each year.

Cannabis is one of the safest pain relieving botanical substances known to man, and patients have the right to utilize such a substance in their quest for pain relief and a better quality of life, especially if such a substance already has an accepted medical use in Hawai'i.

In addition:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same rights as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.

Thank you.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 5:20 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** keala13@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Moanikeala Rhodes  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [keala13@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:keala13@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

My family and I strongly support SB2262 because of the proven natural ability marijuana has for alleviating the excruciating chronic pain suffered by many. It would seem more humane to allow our citizens the ability to access good high quality cannabis with the blessing of our legal system, then to have them surreptitiously acquire questionable product from questionable individuals. The following are just a few reasons why we need to pass this bill.

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

Respectfully submitted,

Moanikeala Rhodes

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 4:18 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** davesurfskekaha@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David Matthews  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [davesurfskekaha@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:davesurfskekaha@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:  
i support sb2262.



---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 2:59 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** stephanblas@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Stephan Blas  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [stephanblas@gmail.com](mailto:stephanblas@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

I have a broken neck and suffer from pinched nerves in my arms and legs as well as stress and strain and neuropathic pain from this accident. I wish this reality on no one. Please allow this medicine to be allowed to patients like myself.

Sincerely,  
Stephan Blas

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 12:15 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** captdave.r@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David Hickey  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [captdave.r@mac.com](mailto:captdave.r@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year. My prescription (an opiate prescribed for pain from a severe broken neck, 3 vertebrae were fused) for chronic pain often left me in a "catonic" state and upset my stomach, making eating undesirable. Medical marijuana has none of these effects.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 7:51 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** 7sunbear21@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Harvy M. Sacarob  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [7sunbear21@gmail.com](mailto:7sunbear21@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 12:31 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** mcbaiko@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Michelle Baiko  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [mcbaiko@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbaiko@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

I strongly support this legislation. Medical patients who choose to treat their severe pain conditions with a safe and natural alternative to narcotic or other prescription pain medications deserve the same protections under the law. Cannabis has been proven to be the safest, most effective medication to treat pain and a host of other medical conditions. The US Government holds a patent for cannabinoids as neuroprotectants and anti-inflammatories! (US Patent #6630507) How then can you justify penalizing patients in the US who choose to use this medicine to treat these same ailments?

Please support this bill.

Thank you,  
Michelle Baiko

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 9:06 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** Think\_about\_sahand@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sahand  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: Think about sahand@yahoo.com  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 9:14 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** jmcroberts@hawaiiantel.biz  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jonathan McRoberts  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [jmcroberts@hawaiiantel.biz](mailto:jmcroberts@hawaiiantel.biz)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

Every year people suffering from chronic pain become addicted to dangerous opioids or die from overdoses. NSAID's such as advil, alleve, and aspirin can also kill or cause severe allergic reactions requiring hospitalization. No one has ever died from an overdose of medical cannabis. Patients who choose to use medical cannabis for their chronic pain should have the same rights as patients who choose the more dangerous drugs.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 9:22 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** rogerwalraven@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Roger Walraven  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rogerwalraven@yahoo.com](mailto:rogerwalraven@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 8:26 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** hjguk@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Morgan Lawson  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [hjguk@aol.com](mailto:hjguk@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

As a chronic pain sufferer and insomniac, I support this Bill. This bill will allow people like me to have more options when it comes to treating chronic pain and sleep disorders. The opiates that are currently prescribed are highly addictive, and cause thousands of deaths in this country per year.



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 8:54 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** pacificservices808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sean LeRoux  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [pacificservices808@gmail.com](mailto:pacificservices808@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

Everyone in this world is different. If everyone was the same the world would be a lot easier to heal and treat. But we all know that isn't true. I am truly blessed to be able to grow and medicate myself with cannabis and do it responsibly. My lack of appetite, sleeping, depression, anxiety, chronic back pain, and extreme migraines would be a lot worse if it wasn't for medical marijuana. I can't begin to tell you how sick, miserable, tired all pharmaceutical medications make me feel.

We need to have a safer, efficient, more structured system to ensure medical marijuana patients get the proper medicine they deserve and need.

Mahalo for your time

1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.

2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).

3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.

4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.

5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 9:14 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** judly\_study@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Judiah McRoberts  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [judly\\_study@hotmail.com](mailto:judly_study@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

As a Registered Nurse who deals directly with the needs of the sick, compromised and dying, I believe it be fair that medical marijuana patients be protected under the same rights as other patients receiving prescriptions for pain management. I support furthering this bill. Thank You.

## Testimony for SB2262

Now this is a bill I can SUPPORT. Being a medical cannabis patient on the Big Island, I was diagnosed with degenerative disc disease. My doctor said this is not something that can be healed by modern medicine, it is a degeneration of the discs in the spine, and will continue to get worse as you get older.

After having taken 600mg Ibuprofen 3 x a day for several years, my kidneys were constantly hurting, and I had a feeling I was poisoning myself. I switched to hydrocodone, and that left me with a racing heart and a woozy feeling, and I could not take it during the day and function normally. Cannabis is the perfect pain relief medicine, it has no deadly side effects, and it soothes the pain and helps with the nausea when the pain is bad.

I appreciate this bill, and would like to be treated like any other patient, not singled out for my choice of medicine.

Thank you for your supporting votes!

Sara Steiner  
P.O. Box 1965  
Pahoa, Hawaii 96778

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:05 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** ivomiller26@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Ivo Miller  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ivomiller26@yahoo.com](mailto:ivomiller26@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I, Ivo Miller am in strong support of this legislation for the following reasons:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Ivo Miller

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 10:16 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nimo1767@mail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Petricci  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nimo1767@mail.com](mailto:nimo1767@mail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
Robert Petricci  
PO box 2011 Pahoa Hi. 96778  
808 936-5239

Aloha thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of SB 2262

Let me start by giving you a little history about myself. I have severe arthritis, I was diagnosed early in my life at least 20 years ago. I have used every drug my doctor can think of to try and treat the swelling and severe pain, but it is a degenerative disease and has gotten progressively worse. As most of us know most narcotics are addicting and can be very dangerous like Oxycontin, Vicaden, ect. they are responsible for roughly 15,000 accidental deaths every year. Cannabis on the contrary is so much safer there has never been an overdose or adverse reaction death. Think about that seriously for a minute yet here we are doctors and patients again fighting for the right to use the safest medicine available to treat my disease. You would think the opposite would be the case but the reality is I can get narcotics prescribed for my condition any time, its that bad. Ironically it's only cannabis the safest drug that works that is a problem. That is very odd to me.

Pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs) like Vioxx, declofenac, Meloxicam, or Celebrax are in fact extremely dangerous. I have used them all. They can cause kidney failure even heart attacks and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers). They all affect my stomach in a negative way, I even tried a topical declofenec cream but it just doesn't work. Cannabis on the other hand works extremely well for me and I have not had any side effects or adverse reactions to it. My doctor has tried every drug he could come up with and hands down cannabis is the one that not only works but it;s safe. I worry when ever I have to take anything else. I am 56 years old, my peace of mind and quality of life are so much better with cannabis that it enables me enjoy life a lot more. You can not put a price on that at my age.

Why are patients who use medical cannabis denied the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain?

When I travel my arthritis comes with me, just as some one with any other disease. I can not leave it home or turn it off. Why am I singled out and discriminated against, even arrested because I need to bring my medication along just as patients using other controlled substances do when they travel within the state with their medication? Why are my civil

rights selectively suspended because of the medication my doctor recommends? What am I suppose to do? Risk the side effects or even death for the other drugs I am allowed to travel with? Live in severe pain or break the law? Those are the only three options available. What would you do?

This is one of the great civil right battles of our time in Hawaii. The right a to real patient doctor relationship free of state interference. The right to use what by all accounts is the safest drug to treat my arthritis, and the right to take my medication with me when I travel with out fear of being arrested.

The right to manage my disease under a doctors care in the way that we decide is the most effective and safe manner.

Thank you for considering what I said today. We are going on 13 years with this program. It is time to get past the stigma and do what is best for the people that can replace addictive and dangerous narcotics or NSAIDS with cannabis. Please do not punish us all for what a few may do. Prescription drugs are abused on a huge scale yet patients that use those drugs are not singled out ostracized, or punished.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:16 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** michaellatimore@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: michael latimore  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [michaellatimore@yahoo.com](mailto:michaellatimore@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I personally support SB 2262 (which would include medical cannabis patients in the Hawaii Pain Patients' Bill of Rights) and present the following testimony, to support my position.

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:51 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** nahak@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Dr. Stuart A. Kahan  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [nahak@hotmail.com](mailto:nahak@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
Support of this bill is imperative.



---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 1:02 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** j.lilinoe@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Josephine Keliipio  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [j.lilinoe@gmail.com](mailto:j.lilinoe@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

I support SB2262 which clarifies that the medical use of marijuana is considered to be consistent with the pain patient's bill of rights.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 7:10 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** bacher.robert@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Bacher  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [bacher.robert@gmail.com](mailto:bacher.robert@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

People should have the right to choose cannabis, which DEA Judge Young described as the "safest therapeutic substance known to man". They should also be allowed safe access to this medicine, just as they would more dangerous medicine like opioids.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 7:42 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** vickiv@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Vicki Vierra  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [vickiv@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:vickiv@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

Please support SB2262, PAIN PATIENTS BILL OF RIGHTS.

I am a medical marijuana patient as a result of crippling arthritis in my hands and hips. As an artist and graphic designer, medical marijuana allows me to continue in my work, without the danger of liver and kidney damage caused by common over the counter NSAIDS, and the danger of addiction to prescription opiates. I have worked hard with my hands over the years, and live in pain every day. Medical marijuana allows me to continue to be a productive citizen. Please pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Vicki Vierra  
Vicki Vierra Graphic Design

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 8:18 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** victoriahokulani@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Victoria Latenser  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [victoriahokulani@gmail.com](mailto:victoriahokulani@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year. (Its not just celebrities that are dying from these toxic cocktails!)

2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs). Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).

3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.

4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.

5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

Please stop villifying the cannabis plant and allow it to be an acceptable medical remedy for those who prefer an herbal alternative.

How many super star celebrities have to die from over medication of pain pills before everyone realizes the magnitude of toxicity in these LEGAL medications?

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 8:28 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** rocky-ra@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Holck  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rocky-ra@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:rocky-ra@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 8:33 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** locopelli@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jonathan Saylor  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [locopelli@hotmail.com](mailto:locopelli@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
[mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]  
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 5:07 PM  
To: PGM Testimony  
Cc: willsilver@hawaii.rr.com  
Subject: Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: William S Navran  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: willsilver@hawaii.rr.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

To Whom It Concerns:

Please support this bill. I am allergic to NSAID'S and am easily addicted to narcotics. Failing to pass this bill would severely limit my ability to control the pain of my pinched nerves and compressed spinal cord.

Sincerely,  
William Navran

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 5:43 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** trustharry@aloha.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM  
**Attachments:** SB 2262 TESTIMONY.doc

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Harry M. Pritikin  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [trustharry@aloha.net](mailto:trustharry@aloha.net)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
This is from my friend Rick Richards.  
February 13, 2012

Re: Medical Marijuana in Hawaii

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a sixty year old male with Ankylosing Spondylitis. Ankylosing spondylitis is a long-term disease that causes inflammation of the joints between the spinal bones, and the joints between the spine and pelvis. It eventually causes the affected spinal bones to join together. It is sometimes known as Spinal Arthritis and is a very debilitating and chronic condition. I was diagnosed at Loma Linda University Medical Center many years ago and I have suffered with this painful disease for over 25 years. Along with the spinal problems, I have peripheral joint involvement in my feet, knees, and elbows that produce painful swelling and has resulted in 10 to 20 per cent joint contractures in my left arm and both legs. I also have iritis in my right eye, which is arthritis of the iris of the eye.

Medical Marijuana is very beneficial in the treatment of my disease. I am able to get some relief from the constant pain. I usually take Medical Marijuana only in the evenings to obtain some relief from the chronic pain. As is common with chronic disease, I often suffer from major depression. Medical Marijuana helps to ease my depression also.

There is absolutely no doubt that Medical Marijuana has improved my quality of life a great deal and is an integral part of my treatment along with Bupropion, Tramadol, Carisoprodol, Cyclobenziprine, Prednisone, Cafergot and Atropine Sulfate. Some of these drugs cause stomach problems and Medical Marijuana helps combat those symptoms also.

Please don't take Medical Marijuana away from me and the thousands of other patients that benefit from it's use. Cancer, Glaucoma and many other diseases are helped by the use of Medical Marijuana. This is a known fact. The Federal Government is wrong in their statement that there are no medical uses for Marijuana. I believe this is an attempt by the big drug companies to deceive and manipulate the American Public.

If you need any further information about me or my disease, feel free to contact me and I will be happy to cooperate and help in any manner possible.



Sincerely,

Rick Richards  
82-6148 Muliwai Place  
Captain Cook, HI 96704

[kantspel@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kantspel@hawaii.rr.com)  
(808) 323-3763

Hawai'i Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs  
Hawai'i Senate Committee on Health

SB 2262 Relating to Patient's Pain Bill of Rights

Wednesday February 15, 2012 @ 2:45pm

**STRONG SUPPRORT**

Aloha Senators:

I am a medical cannabis patient residing in Hawai'i County.

I am diabetic, and suffered from hepatitis about 30 years ago. I work out regularly and manage my diet carefully so that I do not have to take medications to control the diabetes (such as Mediator, which killed 2,000 people in 2010). However, being active results in a variety of persistent pains. Prolonged use of many of the NSAIDs (Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs) such as Advil, Tylenol or aspirin can cause bleeding ulcers, kidney or liver damage and/or death. The FDA had approved Vioxx for pain relief, but the drug caused an increase in heart attacks and strokes, and Vioxx was removed from the US market in 2004 (after more than 50,000 deaths). Marijuana is not toxic or dangerous in this manner. Since I take care of my health through diet and exercise, I want to use a natural medicine like cannabis, and that should be my choice.

By adding medical marijuana to the patient's pain bill of rights, you will help confirm that marijuana is medicine, and that a person, after consulting with their medical doctor (not a law enforcement person), has the right to manage their pain in any way that they deem appropriate.

There are bills trying to effectively shut down the medical marijuana program in Hawai'i...do not let that happen.

Please pass SB2262 and help strengthen the patient's pain bill of rights and protect the safety of law abiding citizens who use medical marijuana.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Rifkin  
Keaau, HI

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 10:33 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** orioninhawaii@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Orion Freeman  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [orioninhawaii@gmail.com](mailto:orioninhawaii@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

Pain Patients Bill of Rights? People ought to be able to treat their medical conditions in the best way that they as individuals see fit - period. Pain Patients Bill of Rights indeed, but the Bill of Rights FOR the united States of American as an expression of 'SELF EVIDENT TRUTH' says that gov't doesn't have any jurisdiction or say about any of this - stay out people's lives! Drug abuse is a symptom, creating more criminals by unnecessary rules and regulations continues with the erroneous premis that gov't has any business messing with this stuff to begin with.

Leave them alone. Its self evident that individuals are first and foremost responsible for their own care, not gov't.

Orion

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 10:35 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** watsonblake8@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Blake Watson  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [watsonblake8@gmail.com](mailto:watsonblake8@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha,

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important legislation. Patients suffering from pain, and who are using cannabis as a doctor recommended treatment, should be afforded the same rights as already granted to other patients treating pain with doctor prescribed methods other than cannabis.

Normally, one would assume that you wouldn't have to itemize and include each and every medicine in such a bill of rights, however it is well known that cannabis has been treated as though its in a special category, with many attendant problems that arise from this for the patients, doctors, caregivers, and law enforcement. But the reason for this disparity is simple: Hawaii recognizes cannabis as medicine whereas Federal Law does not. Many are hoodwinked into believing that Federal law supersedes State law, however in the case of medicine, it does not (see Gonzalez v. Oregon, 546 U.S. 243, 274-275 (2006), US Supreme Court). Because cannabis is Federally scheduled as having "no medical value in the United States" Federal law is in error in the case of cannabis. Hawaii is now pressing back on its own people with mean-spirited legislation instead of sticking up for its citizens and suing the Federal Attorney General for failure to correctly classify cannabis. This is a huge mistake- especially with the resultant harm to Hawaii's citizens, and a missed opportunity on the part of the State of Hawaii to make real progress. You could be leaders of the pack, as President Obama has already re-affirmed this concept of "Federalism" in Executive Order 13132: unlimited constitutional power of the States, alongside limited constitutional power of the Federal government, or as it was once was known, the Federation of the States. He re-affirms the 10th and 9th amendments of the US Constitution and as such is open to "States to experiment with their own laws, that pre-empt Federal laws, if explicitly stated as such in the State law." Please read Obama's executive order on this, its very important as State legislators that you do so. A patient bill of rights is a great platform to start from.

If anyone needs a copy or a link to get a copy of the executive order I am referencing, please do not hesitate to contact me at [watsonblake8@gmail.com](mailto:watsonblake8@gmail.com), or (808)315-4007.

Thank you,  
Blake Watson

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 11:15 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** mjnavatta@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Michael Navatta  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [mjnavatta@hotmail.com](mailto:mjnavatta@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

I have both carpal tunnel syndrome and early arthritis pain in my hands and arms. I have been diagnosed with these conditions by numerous physicians over the years. These physicians have prescribed me a series of different NSAIDs over the years, all of which worked for a time, but my body would build tolerance for all of these drugs, rendering them useless over time. I have also had other side effects, such as sensitivity to the sun, drowsiness, dehydration and many more. Consuming cannabis has been the only medication that has consistently stopped the pain and caused little or no side effects.

The continued use of cannabis as medicine is integral to my well being and pain relief. I support SB2262

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 11:58 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** captdave.r@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David Hickey  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [captdave.r@mac.com](mailto:captdave.r@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year. My prescription (an opiate prescribed for pain from a severe broken neck, 3 vertebrae were fused) for chronic pain often left me in a "catonic" state and upset my stomach, making eating undesirable. Medical marijuana has none of these effects.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis. cw

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 11:59 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** konachefal@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Alan M. Valentin  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [konachefal@hotmail.com](mailto:konachefal@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

As a chronic pain sufferer and a citizen of the United States of America, I should have the right to choose the medication to relieve my pain. I choose medical marijuana because I have seen friends and family who have become addicted to and have abused the pain medicine prescribed to them. Some members of my family have become so enslaved by prescription drugs that they have formed a network amongst themselves in order to supply their needs. Some of the things they have devised to obtain these drugs include seeing multiple doctors in order to have multiple prescriptions. It is appalling to know too that doctors so freely prescribe these highly addictive drugs. Maybe as legislators and prominent citizens in our community you are not aware of what your constituents are subjected to in everyday coping of life but this real to me. I have seen my loved ones reduced to being counter productive to this society in order that they will be able to escape the stress of their lives. It is sad to know that as leaders of our community that you enablers of their failure. Please remember that there are those of us that were not blessed with the social or educational opprotunities that you might have had. Please be compassionate to our plight and do the right thing and serve the people.

11/13/2012

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 11:51 AM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** ISLCOMPOUND@LIVE.COM  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: WAYNE GREENWOOD  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ISLCOMPOUND@LIVE.COM](mailto:ISLCOMPOUND@LIVE.COM)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

CRONIC PAIN PATIENTS DESERVE THE RIGHT  
TO AVOID A ADDICTING AND HIGHLY DANGEROUS OPIOIDS (OXYCOTIN AND METHADONE) THAT CONSTIPATE  
AND SADATE AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 15,000 ACCIDENTAL DEATHS EVERY YEAR CRONIC PAIN PATIENTS  
WHO NEED MEDICAL CANNABIS DESERVE THE SAME RIGHT AS PATIENTS USING OTHER CONTROLLED  
SUBSTANCES TO TRAVEL WHITIN THE STATE WITH THEIR MEDICATION.

WE DESERVE THE RIGHT TO USE THE SAFEST PAIN MEDICATION KNOWN TO SCIENCE ,CANNABIS



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 12:10 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** alohacymber@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Cymber Lily Quinn  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [alohacymber@mac.com](mailto:alohacymber@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

**Comments:**

I have been in chronic pain since age 12 from childhood sexual abuse and trauma. I have taken many pharma drugs for long periods of time, and can no longer take them as maintenance. Many of the drugs that are recommended are addictive. In one case, the doctor refused to give me a drug unless I promised never to try to get off of it because it was so addictive.

Medical use of cannabis makes it possible for me to live a normal daily life. Without it, I would probably be hiding in my darkened bedroom with a migraine most of the time.

- 1) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid addicting and highly dangerous opioids (like Oxycontin and methadone) that constipate and sedate patients and are responsible for 15,000 accidental deaths every year.
- 2) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to avoid pharmaceutical NSAID's. Many patients are allergic to NSAID's (aspirin, advil, alleve, etc) which can also cause kidney failure and are responsible for 100,000 hospitalizations a year (including 6,000 deaths, mainly from bleeding ulcers).
- 3) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same job protection as those patients who are prescribed other controlled substances for their pain.
- 4) Chronic pain patients who need medical cannabis deserve the same right as patients using other controlled substances to travel within the state with their medication.
- 5) Chronic pain patients deserve the right to use the safest pain medication known to science: Cannabis.

Thank you for showing compassion for your fellow suffering islanders. Blessings and aloha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 12:51 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** slavinrobert@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM  
**Attachments:** Testimony against SB2262.docx

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Slavin  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [slavinrobert@mac.com](mailto:slavinrobert@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I suffer from an array of neuropathies & paresthesias related to cervical radiculopathy. I had a subtotal meniscectomy in 1996 and suffer from knee and iliotibial band pain. Degenerative changes are occurring in my knees, neck, ankles and probably more - arthritic spurs (osteophytes). These pains can be severe and debilitating. I am a 69 year old retired teacher, and not a 'druggie' in any way; I rarely use alcohol and quit smoking cigarettes in 1979. I am educated and try to be a useful member of society, and I have found relief from a moderate use of cannabis - so much less impairing than the narcotics that my doctors prescribe. I understand that this bill is trying to remove pain as a reason to use cannabis medically. Please believe me when I say that my pain is eased by this natural substance. This is backed up by studies concluding that marijuana is effective in controlling chronic pain, and an extremely safe medication; I believe that state lawmakers should be prodding the Federal Government to change the way they are including cannabis with dangerous and addictive drugs, and not be persuaded by false propaganda. Please help.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 1:09 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** lawgal20910@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2262 on 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/HTH 2/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2262

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Genevieve Marie Walker  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: lawgal20910@yahoo.com  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:  
Distinguished Chairman/Chairwoman/Judiciary Committee:

I am a 95 year old US Navy veteran who served Hawaii and this nation here as a Navy Wave before, during and following the Pearl Harbor attack (I served as a radio operator and cypher in Waihawa) and I live permanently in Ewa Beach. I am writing to wholly support the passage of SB2262 which clarifies and extends our Hawaiian Patients' Bill of Rights and has major medical clinical support to support its passage. Medical marijuana and the right to die with dignity as well as patients' rights of privacy which extends to being able to lawfully obtain and use cannabis and cannaboids for anti-cancer agent effects has been fully documented and is updated as follows.

1st Study: J Clin Invest. 2009 May 1; 119(5): 1359-1372.  
Published online 2009 April 1. doi: 10.1172/JCI37948 PMID: PMC2673842; Copyright 169; 2009, American Society for Clinical Investigation: Cannabinoid action induces autophagy-mediated cell death through stimulation of ER stress in human glioma cells Mar237;a Salazar,1,2 Arkaitz Carracedo,1 205;241;igo J. Salanueva,1 Sonia Hernandez-Tiedra,1 Mar Lorente,1,2 Ainara Egia,1 Patricia V225;zquez,3 Cristina Bl225;zquez,1,2 Sof237;a Torres,1 Stephane Garc237;a,4 Jonathan Nowak,4 Gian Mar237;a Fimia,5 Mauro Piacentini,5 Francesco Cecconi,6 Pier Paolo Pandolfi,7 Luis Gonz225;lez-Feria,8 Juan L. Iovanna,4 Manuel Guzm225;n,1,2 Patricia Boya,3 and Guillermo Velasco1,2 1Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I, School of Biology, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain. 2Centro de Investigaci243;n Biom233;dica en Red sobre Enfermedades Neurodegenerativas (CIBERNED), Madrid, Spain. 3D Lab (Development, Differentiation, and Degeneration), Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiopathology, Centro de Investigaciones Biol243;gicas, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cient237;ficas (CSIC), Madrid, Spain. 4INSERM U624, Campus de Luminy, Marseille, France. 5National Institute for Infectious Diseases, IRCCS "L. Spallanzani," Rome, Italy. 6Laboratory of Molecular Neuroembryology, IRCCS Fondazione Santa Lucia and Department of Biology, University of Rome "Tor Vergata," Rome, Italy. 7Cancer Genetics Program, Beth Israel Deaconess Cancer Center and Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 8Department of Neurosurgery, University Hospital, Tenerife, Spain.  
Address correspondence to: Guillermo Velasco, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I, School of Biology, Complutense University, c/ Jos233; Antonio Novais s/n, 28040 Madrid, Spain. Phone: 34-913944668; Fax: 34-913944672; E-mail: gvd@bbm1.ucm.es. The entire link can be accessed at the National Institute of Health (Oncology) site: J Clin Invest. 2009 May 1; 119(5): 1359-1372.  
Published online 2009 April 1. doi: 10.1172/JCI37948

PMCID: PMC2673842

Copyright © 2009, American Society for Clinical Investigation Cannabinoid action induces autophagy-mediated cell death through stimulation of ER stress in human glioma cells  
María Salazar,1,2 Arkaitz Carracedo,1 & Igo J. Salanueva,1 Sonia Hernández-Tiedra,1 Mar Lorente,1,2 Ainara Egia,1 Patricia Vázquez,3 Cristina Blázquez,1,2 Sofía Torres,1 Stephane Garcia,4 Jonathan Nowak,4 Gian Maria Fimia,5 Mauro Piacentini,5 Francesco Cecconi,6 Pier Paolo Pandolfi,7 Luis González-Feria,8 Juan L. Iovanna,4 Manuel Guzmán,1,2 Patricia Boya,3 and Guillermo Velasco1,2  
1Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I, School of Biology, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain. 2Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red sobre Enfermedades Neurodegenerativas (CIBERNED), Madrid, Spain. 3D Lab (Development, Differentiation, and Degeneration), Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiopathology, Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Madrid, Spain. 4INSERM U624, Campus de Luminy, Marseille, France. 5National Institute for Infectious Diseases, IRCCS "L. Spallanzani," Rome, Italy. 6Laboratory of Molecular Neuroembryology, IRCCS Fondazione Santa Lucia and Department of Biology, University of Rome "Tor Vergata," Rome, Italy. 7Cancer Genetics Program, Beth Israel Deaconess Cancer Center and Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 8Department of Neurosurgery, University Hospital, Tenerife, Spain. Address correspondence to: Guillermo Velasco, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I, School of Biology, Complutense University, c/ José Antonio Novais s/n, 28040 Madrid, Spain. Phone: 34-913944668; Fax: 34-913944672; E-mail: gvd@bbm1.ucm.es.

2nd Study. Marijuana components have been found to inhibit the growth of the most common, and aggressive form of brain tumor, a glioblastoma, according to a study published in the January 6 issue of *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics*.

The study was done at the California Pacific Medical Center by researchers who combined a non-psychoactive ingredient of marijuana, cannabidiol (CBD), with  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol ( $\Delta^9$ -THC), the primary psychoactive ingredient in Cannabis. The findings demonstrated the inhibitory effect of these two ingredients on brain cancer cells when used together.

"Our study not only suggests that combining these two compounds creates a synergistic effect," says Sean McAllister, Ph.D., a scientist at CPMCRI and the lead author of the study. "but it also helps identify molecular mechanisms at work here, and that may lead to more effective treatments for glioblastoma and potentially other aggressive cancers."  
"Previous studies had shown that  $\Delta^9$ -THC was effective in inhibiting brain cancer growth in cell cultures and in animal models and prompted a small clinical trial in Spain. There is also evidence that other compounds in Cannabis might prove effective against tumors, but limited scientific evidence is available," the report stated.

3rd Study From a San Francisco Leading Oncologist: Debasish Tripathy, M.D. who reports:  
"Since 1993, I have been a physician at the UCSF Mount Zion Breast Care Center in San Francisco. My practice is devoted exclusively to breast cancer patients. I treat more than 1,000 patients. Approximately 100 of these patients are currently undergoing chemotherapy, a treatment utilizing various combinations of powerful medications. In some cases, the therapeutic dose of the medication we use is not far from the potentially lethal dose. Although chemotherapy is a widely used treatment in the treatment of many cancers, it can also cause severe adverse effects, which some patients are simply unable to tolerate. The most common adverse effects of chemotherapy are nausea and retching. The nausea and retching associated with chemotherapy are often disabling and intractable. The severity of the symptoms and their medical consequences vary from patient to patient. In many cases, the immediate results are weight loss, fatigue, and chronic discomfort. The consequences can be far graver in patients whose health and functioning is already compromised. For example, the dangers associated with weight loss and malnutrition are greater in patients whose cancer has metastasized and attacked other parts of the body."

I have prescribed Marinol to some of my patients and it has proven effective in some cases. However, scientific and anecdotal reports consistently indicate that smoking marijuana is a therapeutically preferable means of ingestion. Marinol is available in pill form only. Moreover, Marinol contains only one of the many ingredients found in marijuana (THC). It may be that the beneficial effects of THC are increased by the cumulative effect of additional substances found in cannabis. That is an area for future research. For whatever reason, smoking appears to result in faster, more effective relief, and dosage levels are more easily tolerated and controlled in some patients.&quot;

4th and Subsequent Studies from 1960s to date & continuing: Clinical trial data published in January 2003 issue of the Journal of the American Society of Clinical Investigation that found cannabinoids significantly inhibit skin tumor growth in mice. Investigators of the study concluded, &quot;The present data indicate that local cannabinoids administration may constitute an alternative therapeutic approach for the treatment of non-melanoma skin cancer.&quot; Clinical trial data published in the March 2003 issue of The FASEB Journal that found that the &quot;local administration of a non-psychoactive cannabinoid inhibits angiogenesis (tissue growth) of malignant gliomas (brain tumors).&quot; A clinical review in the October 2003 issue of the prestigious journal Nature Reviews Cancer that concluded that cannabinoids' &quot;favorable drug safety profile&quot; and proven ability to inhibit tumor growth make them desirable agents in the treatment of cancer. According to the review's author, tumors inhibited by cannabinoids include: lung carcinoma, glioma, thyroid epithelioma, lymphoma/leukemia, skin carcinoma, uterus carcinoma, breast carcinoma, prostate carcinoma, and neuroblastoma (a malignant tumor originating in the autonomic nervous system or the adrenal medulla and occurring chiefly in infants and young children). Clinical trial data published in the November 2003 issue of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics that found the administration of the cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) inhibits the growth of human glioma cells both in vitro (e.g., a petri dish) and in animals in a dose-dependent manner. Investigators concluded, &quot;Non-psychoactive CBD produce[s] a significant antitumor activity both in vitro and in vivo, thus suggesting a possible application of CBD as an antineoplastic agent (something which prevents the growth of malignant cells.)&quot; And finally, a clinical review in the December 2003 issue of the journal Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Targets that summarized &quot;the demonstrated antitumor actions of cannabinoids,&quot; and elaborated on &quot;possible avenues for the future development of cannabinoids as antitumor agents.&quot;

If all of these instances of medical efficacy were not enough, just from July 2011 through January 2012 the New England Journal of Medicine, the NIH Oncology Journal and the Harvard Medical Review have all reported positive clinical study trial results that show major efficacy when cannabis is used with other anti-cancer drugs in breast cancer, prostate cancer, other forms of lymphoma including hepatoma (liver cancer) and the like. Hawaii is known as being the compassionate, broad thinking, empathetic and diverse cultural state of the 50 states second to none. It is time to bring out system of substandard healthcare out of the Dark Ages to at least reach the upper 1/3 of American States (we are currently in the lowest 1/3 of healthcare providing states with substandard healthcare in many specialties including oncology and cancer treatments).

As a 64 year Federal civil servant who also served in uniform during WWII here in Hawaii, I ask you distinguished committee with all due respect and reverence to express your compassion, your respect for the Hippocratic oath and exercise your discretion of fundamental fairness as justice to pass SB2262 which I wholly support. Thank you for your attention to these comments. I apologize in advance for a prior E mail that did not properly address this Bill and was intended for a house bill HB2600 which is currently active on the other side of the Legislature.

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2012 6:12 PM  
**To:** PGM Testimony  
**Cc:** asumberg@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2945 on 2/14/2012 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/14/2012 3:15:00 PM SB2945

Conference room: 224  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: alex sumberg  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [asumberg@gmail.com](mailto:asumberg@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/14/2012

**Comments:**

You need to define nuisance better. What is there to stop you from just taking licenses away from bars you may not approve of, or in an effort to clear a neighborhood of businesses for economic and development purposes?

What responsibility does the bar hold if the nuisance is the neighborhood and not them? This is bad policy. Too many ifs and vague guidelines. As written, this will do nothing to solve whatever problem you are thinking you are trying to solve, it just adds more unnecessary guidelines and code onto an industry that is rife with it already.

Might as well write "we want to take away drivers licenses from people who are bad..." Define "Bad". No warning? Do they have to be bad in a certain way, or just any general way you don't like?

I suggest you squash this bill and go back and address the problem specifically