

**Testimony Supporting HB 2919
House Health Care Committee**

April 8, 2012

Chairman Greenlick and members of the House Health Care Committee,

Thank you for hearing HB 2919--I appreciate you taking the time to consider this important issue.

I support HB 2919 because it encourages important exploration into the preclinical and clinical research of marijuana, and into anecdotal reports that have suggested numerous potential medical uses for marijuana. Regrettably, the debate surrounding marijuana's legalization for general use has confused these scientific findings. Even so, available data suggest that, for people suffering with certain health conditions, cannabinoids can have numerous implications including anti-nausea, appetite stimulation, and pain relief.

As a health and fitness scientist, I would never give an individual a health recommendation that was not evidence based. It is only ethical to conduct high quality research to investigate the physiological effects of medicinal marijuana, just as we would any other pharmacological aid. The HB 2919 will simply allow researchers to determine how, specifically, medicinal marijuana is beneficial, in addition to it's potential harm.

As with any potential therapeutic drug, there are many factors that should be considered in evaluating marijuana's medicinal value. These include:

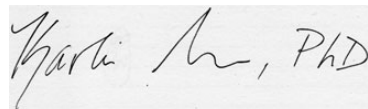
- the side effects,
- methods of administration, and
- availability and comparability of alternatives.

I feel HB 2919 is far more than just another novel idea, Oregon marijuana programs must undertake scientific investigation of the therapeutic benefits of medical marijuana.

HB2919 creates a responsible marijuana program in Oregon and I support this real step-forward as it is clearly the right direction.

Chairman Greenlick and Health Care Committee Members please find in favor of this bill and schedule a work-session.

Sincerely,



Karlie Moore, PhD
Health and Fitness Scientist
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