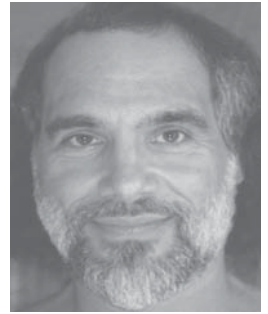




## Testimonial from a Connecticut Resident

### Please Support Medical Marijuana in Connecticut by Supporting House Bill 6715

“As a paraplegic from spinal cord injury, I suffer involuntary spasms and intractable pains. Doctors prescribe tranquilizers and narcotics with side effects such as insomnia, sedation and addiction. Most paraplegics drop from the workforce because of their disabilities and their debilitating drugs. Yet for the past 14 years, I’ve remained creative, independent, self-supporting, and employed full-time.



I learned there is a medicine that relaxes spasms more effectively than do tranquilizers and relieves pains more safely than do narcotics—marijuana. It is the only medication that treats both the spasms and the pains.

Both of my physicians approve of my medicinal use of marijuana. But, here in Connecticut, neither can legally prescribe it. So in 1996, I traveled to Holland, where medicinal marijuana is fully legal, and I now possess a Dutch M.D.’s prescription. Yet such marijuana potentially can cause one undesirable side effect: paranoia. Paranoia about arrest, court costs, criminal fines, prison sentences and lifelong loss of civil rights.

Patients suffering from serious illnesses or injuries should not be threatened with arrest for treating their conditions. We should be able to lead productive lives with less pain. I urge legislators to vote in support of Connecticut’s medicinal marijuana bill.”

Mark Braunstein  
CT resident

Give doctors the right to recommend the best medicine  
for the best available treatment. Tell your legislators to support  
compassionate use by supporting House Bill 6715.