



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Standing Committee on Transport
and City Services

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into Road Transport (Alcohol and Drugs) Amendment Bill 2026

Submission number: 001

Submitter: Name withheld

Date authorised for publication: 16 July 2026

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - Transport](#)
Subject: Submission re the Road Transport (Alcohol and Drugs) Amendment Bill 2026
Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2026 11:56:45 AM

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Dear committee members,

I am writing this email as a submission regarding the Road Transport (Alcohol and Drugs) Amendment Bill 2026.

Background

I am a 67 year old woman who has been prescribed medicinal Cannabis for severe foot pain due to nerve damage and arthritis. I do not take this, or any other drug, lightly as I much prefer to make adjustments to diet, exercise and/or lifestyle. I would be not taking it if I didn't need it. In my case I've been in severe pain for almost a year now and the medicinal Cannabis I have been prescribed helps with that pain. I have been prescribed two cannabis products one of which contains mainly CBD but contains a small percentage of THC. I understand that THC can stay in my system for an undetermined amount of time.

Issues

I fully support the amendment bill. In my experience the presence of THC in my system does not equal impairment. I do not notice impairment. None of my friends or professional services have noticed any change in me apart from knowing that I am having some relief from nerve pain which can be quite debilitating and restricts what I can do in my life.

I fully support that the bill establishes a statutory defence in line with other patients legally prescribed potentially impairing medicines. I note that people can drive with opioids or benzodiazepines in their systems. I have friends who drive after taking Valium, Lyrica, or Amitriptyline. These are all drugs that can cause drowsiness. I want to be able to drive without fear of criminal proceedings and criminal offence, while still managing my pain through medicinal Cannabis.

People in pain need to take what helps with the pain. In my case I have tried other drugs prescribed by my doctor (Lyrica and Amitriptyline) but they make me drowsy. The medicinal Cannabis does not make me drowsy. I do not need additional fears related to a criminal offence related to driving, in an already difficult situation, ie, managing my pain. Nor do I need administrative or judicial hurdles to overcome. Please do not over complicate things for me and others like me who need the pain relief provided by medicinal Cannabis which includes small amounts of THC.

Conclusion

I support FULL harmonisation of medicinal Cannabis with other prescribed drugs, in accordance with this bill.

I support FULL harmonisation of medicinal Cannabis regardless of the amount of THC in a driver's system. The issue of capable driving should rest solely on impairment.

I also support FULL retrospectivity of this bill.

Other

Please note that I ask for my name to be withheld when this submission is published. Also, I don't have a need to talk to the committee, unless they wish to talk to me.

Yours faithfully

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.