

To The Department of Health,

We strongly support the proposed amendment for CBD to be down scheduled.

We write this email as two female founders of Higher Wave Wellness, a USA based CBD company.

We are both Australian citizens who have been living in New York for the past 5 years, we founded the company in the United States as CBD is illegal in Australia. We now wish to establish the company as Australian owned and help to initiate the CBD market in Australia. As many small businesses are struggling in the time of COVID-19 the <u>CBD industry is growing</u>, powered by independent businesses and <u>female entrepreneurs</u>.

We have personally seen the benefits low dose CBD has in treating day to day stress, anxiety, minor pain, and inflammation. First hand we've seen people move away from either using chemical-based products or using no treatment at all to CBD, this has had a huge impact on the quality of life for many people.

We are swamped with demand from the Australian market for our products to be available here (up to 10 email requests per day).

We have invested in full transparency from seed to sale for our CBD production, a unique QR code, and URL is created for every batch providing an opportunity for the consumer to view the extraction timeline and COA. All extracts and final products are sent for 3rd party testing offsite with 2 separate companies to ensure consistent high quality.

In Australia, people who want CBD and do not want to go to their GP are buying it from companies that do not adhere to these high standards or any standards at all. Many people are buying a product where the contents are not disclosed and many contain little to no CBD as they do not have another option.

Reasons we agree CBD should be down scheduled

- Low dose CBD is a <u>safe product</u> that does not cause intoxication and therefore does not cause addiction.
- CBD derived from hemp is available as an over the counter product (if provided without medicinal claims) in all US states, some jurisdictions in the UK, and is widely available in other countries in other non-prescription products.
- <u>Female entrepreneurs</u> are leading the charge in cannabis businesses across the United States having CBD available in Australia gives an opportunity for more women to take on executive roles.
- CBD gives women an alternative to traditional medicine or no course of action at all, as <u>women's</u> <u>ailments</u> are often written off or prescribed drugs.

HWW

• Hemp farming gives farmers an opportunity to diversify away from agriculture conglomerates.

LowCBD gives people the opportunity to treat minor ailments without the use of chemical-based

products

• There is a high demand for CBD to be available in Australia, we're fielding up to 10 emails a day.

People that want CBD and do not wish to or have access to a GP are currently getting it from a
deregulated, unsafe market, many people don't know what they're buying and have bought

products containing little to no CBD.

Improvements:

We strongly suggest that the type of CBD allows for a whole plant extract and not a synthetic extract.

It has been proven overseas that natural forms of CBD and deriving it from the plant itself are more beneficial. Using a range of cannabinoids with less than 0.2% or 0.3% THC will also align with EU and USA standards opening up import and export opportunities for Australia.

Overall, we regard the CBD as safe and support the amendment.

Regards,

Tessa Rushton +

HWW

Higher Wave Wellness

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