

SB 52 January 24, 2017
Senate Public Health and Welfare
Chair

Nick Reinecker Opponent
Senator Vicki Schmidt

My Name is Nicholas Lee Reinecker and I am a current resident and native of Kansas. I don't have a billion dollar, "war chest", funded by "big" corporations or exclusive special interest donors. However, due to my belief in exclusively non-career citizen politicians and the fundamental constitutionality of, "We the people", under God's grace and judgment, I refuse to bury my head in the sand anymore in response to what I perceive to be the mutilation of certain personal liberties that our government has seemed to deem unnecessary and not in the American citizen's best interest. I desire not to be an avenger but an educator, especially if I have the ability and desire to advocate for those who are not able to advocate for themselves.

The following is my two cent's worth on the issue of naturally occurring substances including cannabis and its classification as a Schedule I substance. I have been a Certified Nurse Aide in both hospital and allied health settings, I have been a Firefighter. I have been an EMT. I have been a Police Officer. I have taken care of a dying father. I have been a rebellious, thrill-seeker. I have witnessed and/or experienced the consequences both directly and indirectly that are produced from the entire spectrum of psycho-actives whether used in a medical or social setting, whether legal or illegal, that mankind has (and will continue to) chosen to be involved with. I urge you as rational, competent human beings, not to allow yourselves to get caught up in the run around of details and half-truths. I sincerely desire you to yield any poisons of any type of hate, ignorance, greed or fear of power or loss of power regarding any political, social or economic issues and concepts that pertain to cannabis, the reproducible plant/commodity, whether those emotions are private in your own heart or publicly stated at will. And finally, I ask for you to just simply realize that all Kansans as well as all Americans are becoming victims of certain potentially harmful state and federal laws and policies concerning what we as citizens can put into or expose our own individual bodies to, whether in the form of nourishment or nourishment preservative, as a medicine, as a health maintenance substance or socially; whether in one's opinion it maybe spiritually healthy or not. The circle has been completed. We are told how to produce. We are told what we can eat, what diseases we 'suffer' from and then we are told what drugs to take to combat, through an endless monthly payment plan, the sicknesses, thereof.

I am not compelled to tell you a war story about my family members, or even myself. But those stories and circumstances are out there, probably in much bigger numbers we would rather not accept, even if we choose not to look at them with honest eyes. Maybe its your brother, maybe its your mother, maybe its your cousin, maybe its your best friend, maybe its just you, needlessly suffering physically, psychologically, emotionally, and/or financially; all for the sake of a profitable stock quote. Not to mention the enormous drain on precious law enforcement resources.

Think about it. We are witnessing the last generation of Americans, the Traditionalists/Loyalists, the 80, 90 and 100 year olds, who fought for the very principles of fundamental constitutional freedoms that we are confronted with today. In my opinion, they are showing us the last glimpse of truly organic aging that may never again include generous amounts of vigor and vitality. These folks are the guinea pigs of socialized healthcare with the 78 million baby-boomers waiting in the wings. Are you sure you don't want to change your minds about a

plant???

Yes, maybe Americans are living longer, but are they upright? Do they have strength enough to go the bathroom by themselves? Can they communicate? Do they have brain function? These are profound questions with profound choices and profound consequences either way. But who is the judge of Quality versus Quantity? There should not be any politics at that level, but, through the pharmaceutical industry, we are regulating even the dying process. The only option that I see is to choose love and passionate compassion for your fellow man that does not involve unhealthy subsidies and unconstitutional use of force.

We have a proud history of patriotism, liberty, and continued concepts of living off the land, which we call agriculture and steadfast prayer that I am proud to say represents what Kansas means to me. These things are why I am taking a stand. Not to mention the fact that most of us, including myself, have sons and daughters that are going to reap whatever good and bad consequences we choose to face them with. Those same sons and daughters will be fighting for those fundamental constitutional freedoms we are so precious guaranteed, under Almighty GOD.

Just like politics, all disasters are local; this is a disaster and we are at war.

As a former EMT, I am tired of seeing the influx of baby-boomers now afflicted with physical medical ailments possibly stemming from synthetic food preservatives, dyes, medications, and overuse of antibiotics; where pharmaceutical morality is being questioned and stocks of companies dancing to the memos of the FDA fax machine. This, in an arena that just 10 years ago was filled mostly with, 'I've fallin and I can't get up' granny runs, along with the middle tier traumas and fires, and of course, those occasional Hurricane Katrina type catastrophes. Why do all Americans need medicine cabinets chalk full of orange, green, red and yellow bottles full of things that make you go hmmm...?

As a former police officer we need to stop these domestic wars, purge some hate and allow some compassion, not necessarily tolerance, but patience. Why is "Family Guy" one of the most watched TV shows by 6-11 year olds, while organizations like NORML can't run a pro-cannabis ad? Healthy use of force or greed? To serve and protect. Remember.

As a Kansan, I am tired of seeing agricultural producers being sold out or bullied into conforming to flagrant privatized-social violations of the producer's rights. Sure they are protected by whistle-blowers when it affects the bottom line. But...what is the bottom line, the dollar or life itself? We live in an era of "seed dealers" of genetically modified for your convenience production variables.... yield yield yield they say..... We better yield something. Thank You.

"...be (ing) tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, and tolerant with the weak and the strong; because someday in your life you will have been all of those."

George Washington Carver