

TESTIMONY OF RICHARD KENT
BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ON HB 1393 COMPASSIONATE USE ACT OF 2009

Good morning, Chairmen Oliver and Baker, and Members of the Committee. I am Richard Kent from Allegheny County.

I am submitting this testimony to urge passage of the Compassionate Use Act of 2009 (HB 1393) by this Committee and the General Assembly.

I am an Iraqi war veteran suffering from PTSD, chronic pain, arthritis and sleeplessness. I find it odd that the Healthcare provided to me will bury me in harmful and addictive prescription medication, but to use marijuana medicinally is out of the question because it is illegal. I have exhausted numerous medications with no relief of my symptoms. After researching the benefits of medicinal marijuana in comparison to traditional medications, I can't believe its illegal. When I asked my doctors for a prescription for marijuana they told me that they couldn't only because of the legality.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.

Sincerely,

Dated: 11/29/2009

Richard Kent
3827 Perrysville Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15214