

Statement by Petitioner Jeremy Retamar Arrieta

When I first heard that we were going to have Prop 2 on the ballot, I was excited. The government was finally listening to its people. I have suffered from chronic pain all my life, and I've seen many doctors who have tried to deal with the symptoms. After years of medical debt, I gave up trying to get help from western medicine. I had gotten heavily depressed living like that every day. I didn't have hope in anything. Medical cannabis saved my life from constant pain both mentally and physically.


We the people of Utah voted for Proposition 2 to be law. After two days of it being law, the church and legislative branch controlled by the church mutilated what we had worked for. The way HB 3001 is designed will cause the medical cannabis system to fail due to several restrictions it created regarding what is legal when it comes to the forms of cannabis we as patients can use. For example, forcing blister packs for any dry herb and no more than a gram per blister. This makes it a lot more expensive to process. No other state in this country has any law close to this. Patients are forced to jump through hoops to get proper treatment.

We the people have been defrauded by Utah's legislative branch. We created the government to serve us. The second we take a real step to showing democracy, the legislative branch destroys our work and replaces it with what they think is best. That is not the definition of democracy!

More people than ever came out to vote for this election. Our votes were silenced when the church and legislative branch changed Prop 2. "Other rights, even the most basic, are illusory if the right to vote is undermined." - The Utah Supreme Court

The Supreme Court exists to make sure democracy wins. Our vision for humanity and this country is the same. We believe, "The people [are] a legislative body coequal in power and with superior advantages to the Legislature." - The Utah Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is one of our last lines of defense against powers of corruption in our state. I hope the court finds that we the people deserve what the people of Utah voted for. HB3001 is a direct insult to democracy.

Signature:  Date: 03/22/19
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