

Good day to everyone. My name is Nick Becker. I'm 41 years old and when I was in my 20s had an indent that left me with a broken collar bone in addition to this, year's later, as a Diesel Technician the disks between my spine are nothing but bone on bone and it's impossible to sleep completely all night or work in the day. I've used kratom since 2018 and have blood work done for other medications I take and blood work always comes back normal, liver enzymes normal, kidney function normal. Kratom in its molecular structure is not at all like a classic opioid, there's times I have not used it because I didn't have any and the only thing that happens is chronic pain comes back. Medical marijuana is still federally illegal and eliminates 90% of all job opportunities this affects me as a married man with 2 children. I alone am the sole provider of our house. I do not want to be on a lifetime of pain pills from doctors mixed with Tylenol or deal with any of the addicting properties that are found in the molecular structure of a classic opioid. Kratom is extremely helpful and stops 98% of the pain that keeps me from being able to simply lay down, it is the secret how I'm able to continue to work and live a normal life. I do support regulations that keep this plant free from outside contaminants and quality control. To make this illegal is to make me a criminal when the only crime I'm committing is the desire to stop hurting, mentally function the next day and to feel pain free. I've seen Orthopedic surgeons, I have had spinal injections, I have also seen nerve specialists none of them prescribed me any medication but, gabapentin and I can't use that during the day. They both orthopedic surgeon and nerve specialist recommended surgery and if I agreed to do that I would not qualify for any disability because I have tried and been

denied. Kratom has been a gift sent from heaven not only, to me but, everyone from all walks of life and careers all over the United States. With out kratom my entire family and new born and 4 year old my wife included will need permanent indefinite support from the state of North Dakota if I'm no longer able to sleep anymore or mentally be alert to continue my career and be a responsible man, husband, father. Please keep kratom legal and available as a option different from what we all know rilly kills people. There is no purely related kratom deaths ever reported. This plant is known a mambog in places such as the Philippines and has been used for centuries. The problem we face today is contamination or fake labeling. I do support legislation that keeps kratom safe, pure. Please if any questions call me 701-210-2667 Nicholas Becker. nicholasstarr44@yahoo.com