

Hello, my name is Kimberly Krueger K-I-M-B-E-R-L-Y K-R-U-E-G-E-R, I am a cannabis advocate and a patient, I am not a criminal.

When I was six weeks old I was hospitalized for meningitis, and from that point on I was sick. It wasn't until I was 5 years old I was diagnosed with Behcets, a rare autoimmune disease. Symptoms of Behcets may include but not limited to oral and genital ulcers, skin lesions, ocular inflammation, arthritis, gastrointestinal lesions/ulcers, and central nervous system involvement. And yes I've had them all, in a flare, Behcets feels like every blood vessel is on fire, every nerve ending is throbbing. According to the American Behcets Disease Association, there are only about 200, 000 patients in the U.S. There is very little to no research for Behcets, which leaves my options very limited. Some of my earliest memories are driving back and forth to KU med, or Children's Mercy. Countless doctors, traveling to the Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins, endless amounts of medications, a constant battle with insurance companies. Because there is not one medication FDA approved for Behcets, I am left to try other drugs for other diseases. This of course meant that my insurance wouldn't cover most of them, and by the age of 11 I had medically bankrupt my parents. Something a kid never gets over or forgets. Every new symptom that came along, another pill would come too. As you can imagine, my medications list started to grow quite long. And then if there was a side effect, that might require another pill. Medications like, Remicade, humira, Enbrel, otezla, prednisone, lyrica, ketamine, dilaudid, fentanyl, morphine, plaquenil, colchicine, Cymbalta, amitriptyline, trazadone, Percocet, oxycotin, methotrexate, sulfasalazine, keppra, Ativan, gabapentin, precedex, Topamax, Seroquel, Risperdal, abilify, rexulti, Zoloft, atenolol, Celebrex, and those are just a few I can recall of the top of my head. The side effects from these drugs can be worse than what you're treating, and most include death. I have been on this poison my entire life, some of these medications haven't even been around long enough to know the long term damage. And just recently my mom, who has Behcets as well has been diagnosed with stage two liver cirrhosis. Years of disease and deadly medications have start to come out.

In 2017 I had come into a major flare, and I ended up in SICU for a week. I had accumulated over 4,000mg of steroids in just a couple of months. I had run out of options, my local doctors were ready to send me back to the Mayo Clinic because I had run out of medications to try. Nothing was working nothing was helping, no one knew what to do, I was ready to give up. I thought for sure all these meds will kill me any way.

But I was willing to try one more thing, and it actually started with the right CBD and CBG oil. I started this oil and could start to see a difference with my anxiety in just a couple of weeks. So that's when I started my research, and what I have learned changed my life. I found how to properly dose with THC, CBD and CBG, I learned that using them together works better. I don't have to go get "high" for pain relief, I require very little. Within a couple of months, I came off over 20 medications. I have never done that before, not once in my life time have been able to come off that many meds and not come close to death. It has now been over one year since I've been hospitalized not even an ER visit. I still take two prescriptions daily, I am not claiming to be cured, but I am able to manage and my head is clear. THC is so much more than pain relief, if taken properly it has been shown to reduce inflammation, use for nausea, sleep aid, anxiety, depression, PTSD, bronchodilator, muscle relaxers, anticonvulsant and many more. All without the risk of damaging your body or death. Our bodies are designed for this plant. I tried the standard approach of medicine for 34 years, it did not work, and it was going to kill me. The human body is not designed to take 20 something pills every day for over 30 years, these medications were going to kill me. I just want my rights to choose my medicine. If it is not dangerous and does not affect

anyone else, it should be my choice how I treat my disease. I ask this committee to hear us, give us a chance to live, the stakes couldn't be higher. Thank you for your time.