

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 4, 2015

Dear Colleague,

Please join us in co-sponsoring legislation to provide children and their families with immediate access to life-saving seizure treatment. The Therapeutic Hemp Medical Access Act of 2015 (S. 1333) removes the outdated federal prohibition on harmless cannabidiol (CBD) oil – a non-psychoactive hemp extract with anticonvulsant properties – and lets states choose for themselves whether to allow access to CBD, as they have chosen to do overwhelmingly.

Oils derived from CBD-rich hemp plants have been shown to greatly reduce seizures. These oils have less than 0.3 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive ingredient in cannabis, so patients receive the therapeutic benefits of CBD without any of the side-effects associated with THC. The medicinal oils are administered orally and, when taken regularly, can save the lives of children with intractable epilepsy.

For Charlotte Figi, a young Colorado girl diagnosed with Dravet's syndrome, all of the traditional medicines had failed, and worse, their severe toxicity caused her brain damage. Had her family not found CBD, Charlotte would almost certainly no longer be with us. With CBD, Charlotte went from 300 grand mal seizures per week to nearly zero. But for other children who do not have access to CBD, the prognosis is much grimmer. That is why the Epilepsy Foundation has endorsed this legislation and asked Congress to act quickly.

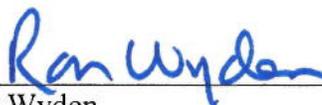
Fifteen states, including Texas, Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina, and Tennessee, have enacted laws in the past year-and-a-half that specifically allow access to CBD for seizures. More states will soon follow, but the federal prohibition remains a significant obstacle. Those states that allow access to CBD have already recognized what Congress has not: CBD is not a psychotropic drug, nor is it recreational or medical marijuana. CBD is a harmless, natural oil extracted from hemp that should never have been classified as a controlled substance.

Families should not have to choose between breaking the law and watching their loved ones suffer. S. 1333 is bipartisan legislation that has the support of nine of your colleagues. We hope you will recognize that taking immediate action will help so many while hurting no one.

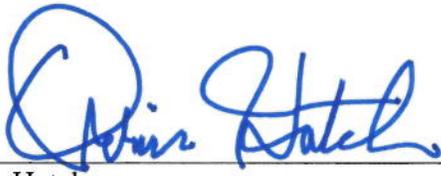
Sincerely,



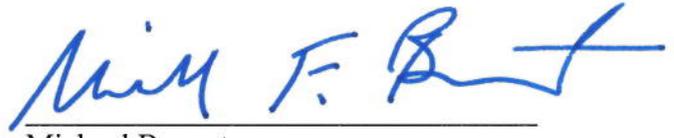
Cory Gardner  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



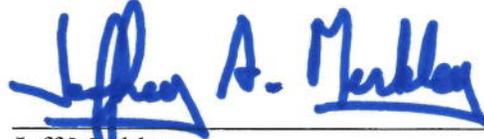
Orrin Hatch  
United States Senator



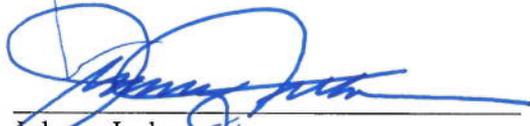
Michael Bennet  
United States Senator



Lamar Alexander  
United States Senator



Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator



Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Ron Johnson  
United States Senator