
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A MEDICINAL
PSILOCYBIN AND PSILOCIN WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE
MEDICINAL AND THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF PSILOCYBIN AND
PSILOCIN OR DEVELOP A LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN TO ENSURE
THE AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINAL PSILOCYBIN AND PSILOCIN OR
PSILOCYBIN-BASED AND PSILOCIN-BASED PRODUCTS THAT ARE SAFE,
ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE FOR ELIGIBLE ADULT PATIENTS.

1 WHEREAS, mental health conditions are treated in various
2 ways depending on the condition and can include medication,
3 therapy, and psychosocial services; and
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5 WHEREAS, these treatments, while effective for certain
6 conditions and patients, do not treat all mental health
7 conditions; and
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9 WHEREAS, psilocybin and psilocin occur naturally in certain
10 species of mushrooms; and
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12 WHEREAS, psilocybin and psilocin are natural chemicals that
13 can activate serotonin receptors in the brain; and
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15 WHEREAS, studies conducted by nationally and
16 internationally recognized medical institutions indicate that
17 psilocybin and psilocin have shown efficacy, tolerability, and
18 safety in the treatment of a variety of mental health
19 conditions, including addiction, depression, anxiety disorders,
20 and end-of-life psychological distress; and
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22 WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration has
23 determined that preliminary clinical evidence indicates that
24 psilocybin and psilocin may demonstrate substantial improvement
25 over available therapies for major depressive disorder and
26 severe treatment-resistant depression and has granted a
27 breakthrough therapy designation for a treatment that uses



1 psilocybin and psilocin as a therapy for major depressive
2 disorder and a breakthrough therapy designation for a treatment
3 that uses psilocybin and psilocin as a therapy for severe
4 treatment-resistant depression; and
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6 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of mental health
7 professionals and should actively consider novel, innovative,
8 and safe solutions to treat its citizens; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
13 Health is requested to convene a Medicinal Psilocybin and
14 Psilocin Working Group, to be placed in the Department of Health
15 for administrative purposes; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
18 Psilocin Working Group is requested to examine:
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- 20 (1) Federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
21 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
22 medicinal use of psilocybin and psilocin;
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- 24 (2) Available medical, psychological, and scientific
25 studies, research, and other information relating to
26 the safety and efficacy of psilocybin and psilocin in
27 treating mental health conditions; and
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- 29 (3) Requirements, specifications, and guidelines for a
30 medical professional to prescribe and provide
31 psilocybin and psilocin to patients; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if feasible, the Medicinal
34 Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group is requested to develop a
35 long-term strategic plan to ensure the availability of medicinal
36 psilocybin and psilocin or psilocybin-based and psilocin-based
37 products that are safe, accessible, and affordable for adults
38 twenty-one years of age or older; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
41 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
42 the Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group:



- (1) The Director of Health, who is requested to serve as chairperson of the working group;
- (2) The Attorney General;
- (3) Faculty members from the University of Hawaii system with relevant scientific expertise;
- (4) The chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing committees whose subject matter purview is primarily responsible for reviewing legislation relating to health and to the Judiciary;
- (5) A clinical practitioner licensed to prescribe psychotropic medication in the State of Hawaii;
- (6) A representative of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii, to be invited by the chairperson of the working group;
- (7) A representative of the Clarity Project, to be invited by the chairperson of the working group;
- (8) A representative of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, to be invited by the chairperson of the working group; and
- (9) A representative of the public with psychedelics-related industry experience, to be invited by the chairperson of the working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group may invite other interested parties with relevant experience to join the working group, provided that the working group does not exceed fifteen members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group is requested to submit a preliminary report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022, and a final report of its findings and



1 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
2 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
3 the Regular Session of 2023; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
6 Psilocin Working Group be dissolved on July 1, 2023; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
10 Attorney General, and President of the University of Hawaii.

