

MAR 12 2021

SENATE 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 AND 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
28 psilocybin and psilocin as a therapy for major depressive
29 disorder and a breakthrough therapy designation for a treatment
30 that uses psilocybin and psilocin as a therapy for severe
31 treatment-resistant depression; and



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2 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of mental health
3 professionals and should actively consider novel, innovative,
4 and safe solutions to treat its citizens; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
8 that the Department of Health is requested to convene a
9 Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group, to be placed in
10 the Department of Health for administrative purposes; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
13 Psilocin Working Group is requested to examine:
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- 15 (1) Federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
16 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
17 medicinal use of psilocybin and psilocin;
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19 (2) Available medical, psychological, and scientific
20 studies, research, and other information relating to
21 the safety and efficacy of psilocybin and psilocin in
22 treating mental health conditions; and
23
24 (3) Requirements, specifications, and guidelines for a
25 medical professional to prescribe and provide
26 psilocybin and psilocin to patients; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
29 Psilocin Working Group is requested to develop a long-term
30 strategic plan to ensure the availability of medicinal
31 psilocybin and psilocin or psilocybin-based and psilocin-based
32 products that are safe, accessible, and affordable for adults
33 twenty-one years of age or older; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
36 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
37 the Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group:
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- 39 (1) The Director of Health, who is requested to serve as
40 chairperson of the working group;
41
42 (2) The Attorney General;



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- 2 (3) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at
- 3 the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
- 4
- 5 (4) The chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives
- 6 standing committees whose subject matter purview is
- 7 primarily responsible for reviewing legislation
- 8 relating to health and to the Judiciary;
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- 10 (5) A physician duly licensed under Chapter 453, Hawaii
- 11 Revised Statutes, or advanced practice registered
- 12 nurse with the authority to prescribe psychotropic
- 13 medication and duly licensed under Chapter 457, Hawaii
- 14 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chairperson of
- 15 the working group;
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- 17 (6) A psychiatrist duly licensed under Chapter 453, Hawaii
- 18 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chairperson of
- 19 the working group;
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- 21 (7) A representative of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii,
- 22 to be invited by the chairperson of the working group;
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- 24 (8) A representative of the Clarity Project, to be invited
- 25 by the chairperson of the working group;
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- 27 (9) A representative of the public with
- 28 psychedelics-related industry experience, to be
- 29 invited by the chairperson of the working group;
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- 31 (10) A representative of the Hawaii Psychological
- 32 Association, to be to be invited by the chairperson of
- 33 the working group;
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- 35 (11) A representative of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical
- 36 Association, to be invited by the chairperson of the
- 37 working group; and
- 38 (12) A member of the public with executive or managerial
- 39 responsibilities for a medical cannabis dispensary
- 40 licensed under Chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 41 or a representative of the Hawaii Educational



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1 Association for Licensed Therapeutic Healthcare, to be
2 appointed by the chairperson of the working group; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the
5 Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group may invite other
6 interested parties with relevant experience to join the working
7 group; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
10 Psilocin Working Group is requested to submit a preliminary
11 report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
12 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
13 Session of 2022, and a final report of its findings and
14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
15 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
16 the Regular Session of 2023; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
19 Psilocin Working Group be dissolved on July 1, 2023; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Attorney
23 General, and Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine.
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OFFERED BY: 

