
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PSILOCYBIN.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that mental health
2 conditions are treated in various ways, depending on the
3 condition, and can include medication, therapy, and psychosocial
4 services. These treatments, while effective for certain
5 conditions and patients, do not treat all mental health
6 conditions.

7 The legislature further finds that psilocybin is a
8 naturally-occurring chemical compound found in certain species
9 of mushrooms, and that psilocybin can activate serotonin
10 receptors in the brain. Studies conducted by nationally- and
11 internationally-recognized medical institutions indicate that
12 psilocybin is safe, tolerable, and effective in the treatment of
13 a variety of mental health conditions, including addiction,
14 depression, anxiety disorders, and end-of-life psychological
15 distress. The United States Food and Drug Administration has
16 determined that preliminary clinical evidence indicates that
17 psilocybin may demonstrate substantial improvement over



1 available therapies for treatment-resistant depression.
2 Accordingly, the agency has designated a treatment that uses
3 psilocybin in a therapeutic manner for treatment-resistant
4 depression as a "breakthrough therapy".

5 The legislature further finds that, because the State has a
6 shortage of mental health professionals, the State should
7 actively consider novel, innovative, and safe solutions to treat
8 its residents.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the
10 therapeutic psilocybin working group to:

- 11 (1) Examine the medicinal and therapeutic effects of
12 psilocybin; and
13 (2) Develop a long-term strategic plan to ensure the
14 availability of therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-
15 based products that are safe, accessible, and
16 affordable for adults twenty-one years of age or
17 older.

18 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a therapeutic
19 psilocybin working group within the department of health for
20 administrative purposes.

21 (b) The working group shall:



H.B. NO. 2400

- 1 (1) Examine federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
2 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
3 therapeutic use of psilocybin;
- 4 (2) Examine available medical, psychological, and
5 scientific studies, research, and other information
6 relating to the safety and efficacy of psilocybin in
7 treating mental health conditions;
- 8 (3) Examine requirements, specifications, and guidelines
9 for a medical professional to prescribe and provide
10 psilocybin to patients in jurisdictions in which
11 psilocybin is used to treat mental health conditions;
12 and
- 13 (4) Develop a long-term strategic plan to ensure the
14 availability of therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-
15 based products that are safe, accessible, and
16 affordable for adults twenty-one years of age or
17 older.
- 18 (c) The working group shall consist of the following
19 individuals, or their respective designees:
- 20 (1) The director of health, who shall serve as chairperson
21 of the working group;



H.B. NO. 2400

- 1 (2) The attorney general;
- 2 (3) The dean of the John A. Burns school of medicine at
- 3 the university of Hawaii at Manoa;
- 4 (4) The chairpersons of the standing committees within the
- 5 senate and house of representatives that are primarily
- 6 responsible for reviewing legislation relating to
- 7 health and the judiciary;
- 8 (5) The chairperson of the Hawaii state council on mental
- 9 health;
- 10 (6) A physician duly who is licensed pursuant to chapter
- 11 453, Hawaii Revised Statutes; or an advanced practice
- 12 registered nurse who is authorized to prescribe
- 13 psychotropic medication and is duly licensed pursuant
- 14 to chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by
- 15 the chairperson of the working group;
- 16 (7) A psychiatrist who is duly licensed pursuant to
- 17 chapter 453, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by
- 18 the chairperson of the working group; and
- 19 (8) Other interested parties with experience that the
- 20 chairperson of the working group deems relevant to the



H.B. NO. 2400

1 purposes of the working group, as invited by the
2 chairperson.

3 (d) The members of the working group shall serve without
4 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including
5 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

6 (e) The working group shall submit a report of its
7 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the regular session of 2023.

10 (f) The therapeutic psilocybin working group shall be
11 dissolved on June 30, 2023.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

13

INTRODUCED BY: Miss E. Louen BR

JAN 26 2022



H.B. NO. 2400

Report Title:

Psilocybin; Department of Health; Working Group; Report

Description:

Establishes the therapeutic psilocybin working group to examine the medicinal and therapeutic effects of psilocybin and develop a long-term strategic plan to ensure the availability of therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-based products that are safe, accessible, and affordable for adults 21 years of age or older.

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