
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A THERAPEUTIC
PSILOCYBIN WORKING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, there is heightened awareness of the detrimental
2 effects of untreated and maltreated mental health in the State's
3 population; and

4
5 WHEREAS, with a shortage of mental health professionals and
6 appropriate mental health care, the State must actively consider
7 innovative and effective treatment options to address this
8 pressing need; and

9
10 WHEREAS, psilocybin has been found to be very effective in
11 treating a variety of mental health conditions, including but
12 not limited to post-traumatic stress disorder, depression,
13 anxiety, and end-of-life psychological distress; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration has
16 designated treatment that uses psilocybin in a therapeutic
17 manner for treatment-resistant depression as a "breakthrough
18 therapy"; and

19
20 WHEREAS, at least two states, Colorado and Oregon, have
21 found that legalizing medicinal psilocybin is a valuable tool in
22 dealing with various mental health conditions; and

23
24 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of mental health
25 professionals and should actively consider novel, innovative,
26 and safe treatment options to address the pressing need for
27 appropriate mental health care; now, therefore,

28
29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
31 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of



1 Health is requested to establish a Therapeutic Psilocybin
2 Working Group; and

3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
5 Working Group is requested to examine:

6

7 (1) Federal, state, and county laws, regulations,
8 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
9 therapeutic use of psilocybin;

10

11 (2) Medical, psychological, and scientific studies,
12 research, and other information relating to the
13 efficacy and safety of psilocybin or psilocybin-based
14 products in treating mental health disorders,
15 including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression,
16 anxiety, and end-of-life psychological distress; and

17

18 (3) Existing laws, requirements, and guidelines in
19 jurisdictions in which psilocybin or psilocybin-based
20 products are legally used to treat mental health
21 conditions; and

22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
24 Working Group is requested to determine and develop a long-term
25 strategic plan to ensure the safe availability and accessibility
26 of affordable, therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-based
27 products for adults twenty-one years of age or older; and

28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
30 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
31 the Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group:

32

33 (1) The Director of Health, who shall serve as chairperson
34 of the Working Group;

35

36 (2) The Attorney General;

37

38 (3) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at
39 the University of Hawaii at Manoa;

40



- 1 (4) The chairperson of the Senate standing committees with
2 primary jurisdiction over health and Judiciary subject
3 matters;
4
- 5 (5) The chairperson of the House of Representatives
6 standing committees with primary jurisdiction over
7 health and Judiciary subject matters;
8
- 9 (6) The Chairperson of the Hawaii State Council on Mental
10 Health;
11
- 12 (7) A physician duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
13 Hawaii Revised Statutes, or an advanced practice
14 registered nurse who is authorized to prescribe
15 psychotropic medication and is duly licensed pursuant
16 to chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by
17 the chairperson of the Working Group; and
18
- 19 (8) A psychiatrist duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
20 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by the chairperson
21 of the Working Group; and
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the
24 Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group may invite other interested
25 parties with relevant experience and expertise to join the
26 Working Group; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
29 Working Group is requested to submit a report of its findings
30 and recommendations, including the long-term strategic plan and
31 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
32 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
33 2024; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
36 Working Group be dissolved on June 30, 2025; and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
40 Attorney General, Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine
41 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Chairperson of the
42 Hawaii State Council on Mental Health.



H.C.R. NO. 202

1
2
3

OFFERED BY: Allen A. Bluth

MAR 10 2023

