
HOUSE 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
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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
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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
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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
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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
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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,
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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, that the Department of Health is requested to
32 establish a Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
2 Working Group is requested to examine:

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- 4 (1) Federal, state, and county laws, regulations,
5 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
6 therapeutic use of psilocybin;
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 - 8 (2) Medical, psychological, and scientific studies,
9 research, and other information relating to the
10 efficacy and safety of psilocybin or psilocybin-based
11 products in treating mental health disorders,
12 including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression,
13 anxiety, and end-of-life psychological distress; and
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 - 15 (3) Existing laws, requirements, and guidelines in
16 jurisdictions in which psilocybin or psilocybin-based
17 products are legally used to treat mental health
18 conditions; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
21 Working Group is requested to determine and develop a long-term
22 strategic plan to ensure the safe availability and accessibility
23 of affordable, therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-based
24 products for adults twenty-one years of age or older; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
27 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
28 the Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group:

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- 30 (1) The Director of Health, who shall serve as chairperson
31 of the Working Group;
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 - 33 (2) The Attorney General;
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 - 35 (3) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at
36 the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
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 - 38 (4) The chairperson of the Senate standing committees with
39 primary jurisdiction over health and Judiciary subject
40 matters;
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- 1 (5) The chairperson of the House of Representatives
- 2 standing committees with primary jurisdiction over
- 3 health and Judiciary subject matters;
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- 5 (6) The Chairperson of the Hawaii State Council on Mental
- 6 Health;
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- 8 (7) A physician duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
- 9 Hawaii Revised Statutes, or an advanced practice
- 10 registered nurse who is authorized to prescribe
- 11 psychotropic medication and is duly licensed pursuant
- 12 to chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by
- 13 the chairperson of the Working Group; and
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- 15 (8) A psychiatrist duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
- 16 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by the chairperson
- 17 of the Working Group; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the
 20 Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group may invite other interested
 21 parties with relevant experience and expertise to join the
 22 Working Group; and

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

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 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
 32 Working Group be dissolved on June 30, 2025; and

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

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OFFERED BY: *Daniel A. Belotti*

MAR 10 2023

