
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 there is heightened
2 awareness of the detrimental effects of untreated and maltreated
3 mental health in the State's population. With a shortage of
4 mental health professionals and appropriate mental health care,
5 the State must actively consider innovative and effective
6 treatment options to address this pressing need.

7 The legislature further finds that psilocybin has been
8 found to be very effective in treating a variety of mental
9 health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder,
10 depression, anxiety, and end-of-life psychological distress. As
11 a result, the United States Food and Drug Administration has
12 designated treatment that uses psilocybin in a therapeutic
13 manner for treatment-resistant depression as a "breakthrough
14 therapy".

15 The legislature also finds that at least two states, Oregon
16 and Colorado, have found that legalizing medicinal psilocybin is



1 a valuable tool in dealing with various mental health
2 conditions.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the
4 therapeutic psilocybin working group, which shall:

- 5 (1) Examine the medicinal and therapeutic effects of
6 psilocybin or psilocybin-based products on mental
7 health, including post-traumatic stress disorder,
8 depression, anxiety, and end-of-life psychological
9 distress;
- 10 (2) Examine the effectiveness of medicinal and therapeutic
11 uses of psilocybin or psilocybin-based products in
12 treating mental health in the two states that have
13 legalized medicinal psilocybin, Oregon and Colorado;
14 and
- 15 (3) Determine and develop a long-term strategic plan to
16 ensure the safe availability and accessibility of
17 affordable therapeutic psilocybin or psilocybin-based
18 products for adults twenty-one years of age or older.

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



- 1 (b) The working group shall:
- 2 (1) Examine federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
- 3 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
- 4 therapeutic use of psilocybin;
- 5 (2) Examine medical, psychological, and scientific
- 6 studies, research, and other information relating to
- 7 the efficacy and safety of psilocybin or
- 8 psilocybin-based products in treating mental health
- 9 disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder,
- 10 depression, anxiety, and end-of-life psychological
- 11 distress;
- 12 (3) Examine existing laws, requirements, and guidelines in
- 13 jurisdictions in which psilocybin or psilocybin-based
- 14 products are legally used to treat mental health
- 15 conditions; and
- 16 (4) If appropriate, determine and develop a long-term
- 17 strategic plan to ensure the safe availability and
- 18 accessibility of affordable therapeutic psilocybin or
- 19 psilocybin-based products for adults twenty-one years
- 20 of age or older.



1 (c) The working group shall consist of the following
2 individuals:

- 3 (1) The executive director of the office of wellness and
4 resilience, or the executive director's respective
5 designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the
6 working group;
- 7 (2) The attorney general, or the attorney general's
8 respective designee;
- 9 (3) The dean of the John A. Burns school of medicine at
10 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, or the dean's
11 respective designee;
- 12 (4) The chairpersons of the senate and house of
13 representatives standing committees whose purview
14 include health and the judiciary, or their respective
15 designees;
- 16 (5) The chairperson of the Hawaii state council on mental
17 health, or the chairperson's respective designee;
- 18 (6) A physician duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
19 Hawaii Revised Statutes, or an advanced practice
20 registered nurse who is authorized to prescribe
21 psychotropic medication and is duly licensed pursuant



1 to chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by
2 the chairperson of the working group;

3 (7) A psychiatrist duly licensed pursuant to chapter 453,
4 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as invited by the chairperson
5 of the working group; and

6 (8) Other interested parties with relevant experience and
7 expertise, as invited by the chairperson of the
8 working group.

9 (d) The members of the working group shall serve without
10 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including
11 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.
12 No member of the working group shall be subject to chapter 84,
13 Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of the member's
14 participation in the working group.

15 (e) The working group shall submit a report of its
16 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
17 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
18 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

19 (f) The working group shall be dissolved on June 30, 2025.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
3 year 2024-2025 for the therapeutic psilocybin working group.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of health for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
7 2050.



Report Title:

Psilocybin; DOH; Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group; Report;
Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group within the Department of Health. Requires the working group to examine the medicinal and therapeutic effects of psilocybin or psilocybin-based products on mental health, report to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2025, and dissolve on 6/30/2025. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2050. (SD2)

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