
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A THERAPEUTIC
PSILOCYBIN WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE MEDICINAL AND
THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF PSILOCYBIN AND DEVELOP A LONG-TERM
STRATEGIC PLAN, SHOULD FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
APPROVAL FOR MEDICAL USE BE OBTAINED, TO ENABLE THE
AVAILABILITY OF THERAPEUTIC PSILOCYBIN OR PSILOCYBIN-BASED
PRODUCTS THAT ARE SAFE, ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE FOR
ADULTS TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER.

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 is a naturally-occurring chemical
10 compound found in certain species of mushrooms; and
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12 WHEREAS, psilocybin can activate serotonin receptors in the
13 brain; and
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15 WHEREAS, studies conducted by nationally and
16 internationally recognized medical institutions indicate that
17 psilocybin has shown efficacy, tolerability, and safety in the
18 treatment of a variety of mental health conditions, including
19 addiction, depression, anxiety disorders, and end-of-life
20 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 may demonstrate substantial improvement over
25 available therapies for treatment-resistant depression and has
26 granted a breakthrough therapy designation for a treatment that



1 uses psilocybin as a therapy for treatment-resistant depression;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of mental health
5 professionals, and should actively consider novel, innovative,
6 and safe solutions to treat its citizens; now, therefore,

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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
10 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
11 Health is requested to convene a Therapeutic Psilocybin Working
12 Group, to be placed within the Department of Health for
13 administrative purposes; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
16 Working Group is requested to examine:

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18 (1) Federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
19 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
20 therapeutic use of psilocybin;
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22 (2) Available medical, psychological, and scientific
23 studies, research, and other information relating to
24 the safety and efficacy of psilocybin in treating
25 mental health conditions; and
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27 (3) The requirements, specifications, and guidelines for a
28 medical professional to prescribe and provide
29 psilocybin to patients in jurisdictions where
30 psilocybin is approved to treat mental health
31 conditions; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
34 Working Group is requested to develop a long-term strategic
35 plan, should Food and Drug Administration approval for medical
36 use be obtained, to enable the availability of therapeutic
37 psilocybin or psilocybin-based products that are safe,
38 accessible, and affordable for adults twenty-one years of age or
39 older; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
2 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
3 the Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group:

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- 5 (1) The Director of Health, who is requested to serve as
6 chairperson of the working group;
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 - 8 (2) The Attorney General;
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 - 10 (3) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at
11 the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
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 - 13 (4) The chairpersons of the Senate and House of
14 Representatives standing committees whose subject
15 matter purview is primarily responsible for reviewing
16 legislation relating to health and the Judiciary;
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 - 18 (5) The chairperson of the Hawaii State Council on Mental
19 Health;
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 - 21 (6) A physician duly licensed under chapter 453, Hawaii
22 Revised Statutes, or advanced practice registered
23 nurse with the authority to prescribe psychotropic
24 medication and duly licensed under chapter 457, Hawaii
25 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chairperson of
26 the working group; and
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 - 28 (7) A psychiatrist duly licensed under chapter 453, Hawaii
29 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chairperson of
30 the working group; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the
33 Therapeutic Psilocybin Working Group may invite other interested
34 parties with relevant experience to join the working group; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
37 Working Group is requested to submit:

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- 39 (1) A preliminary report of its findings and
40 recommendations to the Legislature no later than
41 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
42 Session of 2023; and



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2 (2) A final report of its findings and recommendations,
3 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature
4 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
5 the Regular Session of 2024; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Therapeutic Psilocybin
8 Working Group be dissolved on July 1, 2024; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
12 Attorney General, and Dean of the John A. Burns School of
13 Medicine.

