

JAN 25 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A MEDICINAL
PSILOCYBIN AND PSILOCIN WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE
MEDICINAL AND THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF PSILOCYBIN AND
PSILOCIN AND DEVELOP A LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN TO ENSURE
THE AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINAL PSILOCYBIN AND PSILOCIN OR
PSILOCYBIN-BASED AND PSILOCIN-BASED PRODUCTS THAT ARE SAFE,
ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE FOR ELIGIBLE ADULT PATIENTS.

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 and psilocin occur naturally in certain
10 species of mushrooms; and
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12 WHEREAS, psilocybin and psilocin are natural chemicals that
13 can activate serotonin receptors in the brain; and
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15 WHEREAS, studies conducted by nationally and
16 internationally recognized medical institutions indicate that
17 psilocybin and psilocin have shown efficacy, tolerability, and
18 safety in the treatment of a variety of mental health
19 conditions, including addiction, depression, anxiety disorders,
20 and end-of-life 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 and psilocin may demonstrate substantial improvement
25 over available therapies for major depressive disorder and
26 severe treatment-resistant depression and has granted a
27 breakthrough therapy designation for a treatment that uses
28 psilocybin and psilocin as a therapy for these mental health
29 conditions; and
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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of mental health
2 professionals and should actively consider novel, innovative,
3 and safe solutions to treat its citizens; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
7 that the Department of Health is requested to convene a
8 Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group, to be placed in
9 the Department of Health for administrative purposes; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
12 Psilocin Working Group is requested to examine:
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- 14 (1) Federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
15 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
16 medicinal use of psilocybin and psilocin;
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- 18 (2) Available medical, psychological, and scientific
19 studies, research, and other information relating to
20 the safety and efficacy of psilocybin and psilocin in
21 treating mental health conditions; and
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- 23 (3) Requirements, specifications, and guidelines for a
24 medical professional to prescribe and provide
25 psilocybin and psilocin to patients; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if feasible, the Medicinal
28 Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group is requested to develop a
29 long-term strategic plan to ensure the availability of medicinal
30 psilocybin and psilocin or psilocybin-based and psilocin-based
31 products that are safe, accessible, and affordable for adults
32 twenty-one years of age or older; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
35 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
36 the Medicinal Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group:
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- 38 (1) The Director of Health, who is requested to serve as
39 chair;
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- 41 (2) The Attorney General;
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- 1 (3) Faculty members from the University of Hawaii System
2 with relevant scientific expertise;
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- 4 (4) The chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives
5 standing committees whose subject matter purview is
6 primarily responsible for reviewing legislation
7 relating to health and the Judiciary;
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- 9 (5) A clinical practitioner licensed to prescribe
10 psychotropic medication in the State of Hawaii;
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- 12 (6) A representative of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii,
13 to be invited by the chair of the working group;
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- 15 (7) A representative of the Clarity Project, to be invited
16 by the chair of the working group;
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- 18 (8) A representative of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical
19 Association, to be invited by the chair of the working
20 group; and
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- 22 (9) A representative of the public with
23 psychedelics-related industry experience, to be
24 invited by the chair of the working group; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair of the Medicinal
27 Psilocybin and Psilocin Working Group may invite other
28 interested parties with relevant experience to join the working
29 group, provided that the working group does not exceed fifteen
30 members; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
33 Psilocin Working Group is requested to submit a preliminary
34 report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
35 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
36 Session of 2024, and a final report of its findings and
37 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
38 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
39 the Regular Session of 2025; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin and
42 Psilocin Working Group be dissolved on July 1, 2025; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, who in turn shall notify the non-governmental organizations represented in the working group; Attorney General; and President of the University of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY: 

