

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A MEDICINAL
PSILOCYBIN WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE MEDICINAL AND
THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF PSILOCYBIN AND DEVELOP A LONG-TERM
STRATEGIC PLAN TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINAL
PSILOCYBIN OR PSILOCYBIN-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 occurs naturally in certain species of
10 mushrooms; and
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12 WHEREAS, psilocybin is a natural chemical that can activate
13 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 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 major depressive disorder and severe
26 treatment-resistant depression and has granted a breakthrough
27 therapy designation for a treatment that uses psilocybin as a
28 therapy for major depressive disorder and a breakthrough therapy



1 designation for a treatment that uses psilocybin as a therapy
2 for severe treatment-resistant depression; 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 Thirtieth Legislature
9 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
10 Department of Health is requested to convene a Medicinal
11 Psilocybin Working Group, to be placed in the Department of
12 Health for administrative purposes; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin
15 Working Group is requested to examine:
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- 17 (1) Federal, state, and local laws, regulations,
18 administrative rules, and procedures regarding the
19 medicinal use of psilocybin;
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- 21 (2) Available medical, psychological, and scientific
22 studies, research, and other information relating to
23 the safety and efficacy of psilocybin in treating
24 mental health conditions; and
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- 26 (3) Requirements, specifications, and guidelines for a
27 medical professional to prescribe and provide
28 psilocybin; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin
31 Working Group is requested to develop a long-term strategic plan
32 to ensure the availability of medicinal psilocybin or
33 psilocybin-based products that are safe, accessible, and
34 affordable for adults twenty-one years of age or older; and
35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals, or
37 their respective designees, are requested to serve as members of
38 the Medicinal Psilocybin Working Group:



- 1 (1) The Director of Health, who is requested to serve as
2 chair of the working group;
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- 4 (2) The Attorney General;
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- 6 (3) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at
7 the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
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- 9 (4) The chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives
10 standing committees whose subject matter purview is
11 primarily responsible for reviewing legislation
12 relating to health and to the Judiciary;
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- 14 (5) A physician duly licensed under Chapter 453, Hawaii
15 Revised Statutes, or advanced practice registered
16 nurse with the authority to prescribe psychotropic
17 medication and duly licensed under Chapter 457, Hawaii
18 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chair of the
19 working group;
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- 21 (6) A psychiatrist duly licensed under Chapter 453, Hawaii
22 Revised Statutes, to be invited by the chair of the
23 working group;
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- 25 (7) A representative of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii,
26 to be invited by the chair of the working group;
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- 28 (8) A representative of the Clarity Project, to be invited
29 by the chair of the working group;
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- 31 (9) A representative of the public with
32 psychedelics-related industry experience, to be
33 invited by the chair of the working group;
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- 35 (10) A representative of the Hawaii Psychological
36 Association, to be to be invited by the chair of the
37 working group;
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- 39 (11) A representative of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical
40 Association, to be invited by the chair of the working
41 group; and



1 (12) A member of the public with executive or managerial
2 responsibilities for a medical cannabis dispensary
3 licensed under Chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
4 or a representative of the Hawaii Educational
5 Association for Licensed Therapeutic Healthcare, to be
6 appointed by the chair of the working group; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair of the Medicinal
9 Psilocybin Working Group may invite other interested parties
10 with relevant experience to join the working group; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin
13 Working Group is requested to submit a preliminary report of its
14 findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than
15 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
16 2021, and a final report of its findings and recommendations,
17 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
18 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
19 of 2022; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Medicinal Psilocybin
22 Working Group be dissolved on July 1, 2022; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Attorney
26 General, Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, and
27 chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing
28 committees whose subject matter purview is primarily responsible
29 for reviewing legislation relating to health and to the
30 Judiciary.
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OFFERED BY:



