

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3527

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2022

RE: S.C.R. No. 100  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.C.R.  
No. 100 entitled:

"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 TO ENSURE THE  
AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINAL PSILOCYBIN OR PSILOCYBIN-BASED  
PRODUCTS THAT ARE SAFE, ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE FOR  
ELIGIBLE ADULT PATIENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request 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 to ensure the  
availability of medicinal psilocybin or psilocybin-based products  
that are safe, accessible, and affordable for eligible adult  
patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Clarity Project; Heroic Hearts Project; Drug Policy Forum  
of Hawai'i, Inc.; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Malama  
Mushrooms; and twenty-two individuals. Your Committee received  
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of  
Health, Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, and American  
Psychiatric Association.



Your Committee finds that psilocybin is a naturally-occurring chemical compound found in certain species of mushrooms that can activate serotonin receptors in the brain. Your Committee further finds that studies conducted by nationally and internationally recognized medical institutions indicate that psilocybin has shown efficacy, tolerability, and safety in the treatment of a variety of mental health conditions, including addiction, depression, anxiety disorders, and end-of-life psychological distress. Given the State's shortage of mental health professionals, novel, innovative, and safe solutions to treat its residents should be considered. This measure requests the Department of Health to establish a therapeutic psilocybin working group to examine existing laws regarding the therapeutic use of psilocybin and develop a long-term plan to ensure the availability of medicinal psilocybin for eligible patients.

Your Committee acknowledges the testimony of the Department of Health and medical professional organizations, which raised concerns that the studies demonstrating psilocybin's safety are small and controlled, and that the Food and Drug Administration has not yet approved psilocybin, a schedule I drug, for any medical condition.

Therefore, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the working group to develop a long-term plan to enable the availability of medicinal psilocybin, should Food and Drug Administration approval be obtained for its use; and
- (2) Amending its title accordingly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 100, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 100, S.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,



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JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



