

1 S.114

2 An act relating to the establishment of the Psychedelic Therapy Advisory
3 Working Group

4 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

5 Sec. 1. PSYCHEDELIC THERAPY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP;

6 STUDY

7 (a) Creation. There is created the Psychedelic Therapy Advisory Working
8 Group to examine the use of psychedelics to improve physical and mental
9 health and to make findings and recommendations regarding the advisability of
10 the establishment of a State program similar to other jurisdictions to permit
11 health care providers to administer psychedelics in a therapeutic setting and the
12 impact on public health of allowing individuals to legally access psychedelics
13 under State law.

14 (b) Membership. The Working Group shall be composed of the following
15 members:

16 (1) a representative of the Larner College of Medicine at the University
17 of Vermont, appointed by the Dean;

18 (2) a representative of the Brattleboro Retreat, appointed by the
19 President and Chief Executive Officer;

20 (3) a member of the Vermont Psychological Association, appointed by
21 the President;

1 (4) a member of the Vermont Psychiatric Association, appointed by the
2 President;

3 (5) the Executive Director of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice or
4 designee;

5 (6) the Director of the Vermont Office of Professional Regulation or
6 designee;

7 (7) the Vermont Commissioner of Health or designee; and

8 (8) a co-founder of the Psychedelic Society of Vermont.

9 (c) Powers and duties.

10 (1) The Working Group shall:

11 (A) review the latest research and evidence of the public health
12 benefits and risks of clinical psychedelic assisted treatments and of
13 criminalization of psychedelics under State law;

14 (B) examine the laws and programs of other states that have
15 authorized the use of psychedelics by health care providers in a therapeutic
16 setting and necessary components and resources if Vermont were to pursue
17 such a program;

18 (C) provide an opportunity for individuals with lived experience to
19 provide testimony in both a public setting and through confidential means, due
20 to stigma and current criminalization of the use of psychedelics; and

1 (D) provide potential timelines for universal and equitable access to
2 psychedelic assisted treatments.

3 (2) The Working Group shall seek testimony from Johns Hopkins'
4 Center for Psychedelic and Consciousness Research and Decriminalize Nature,
5 in addition to any other individuals or entities with an expertise in
6 psychedelics.

7 (d) Assistance. The Working Group shall have the assistance of the
8 Vermont Psychological Association for purposes of scheduling and staffing
9 meetings and developing and submitting the report required by subsection (e)
10 of this section.

11 (e) Report. On or before November 15, 2024, the Working Group shall
12 submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary, the
13 House Committee on Health Care, the House Committee on Human Services,
14 and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any
15 recommendations for legislative action.

16 (f) Meetings.

17 (1) The Vermont Psychological Association shall call the first meeting
18 of the Working Group to occur on or before July 15, 2024.

19 (2) The Working Group shall select a chair from among its members at
20 the first meeting.

21 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

- 1 (4) The Working Group shall cease to exist on January 1, 2025.
- 2 (g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Working Group
3 shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as
4 permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than eight meetings. These
5 payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.
- 6 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 7 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.