

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill
3 No. 114 entitled “An act relating to removal of criminal penalties for
4 possessing, dispensing, or selling psilocybin and establishment of the
5 Psychedelic Therapy Advisory Working Group” respectfully reports that it has
6 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out
7 all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. PSYCHEDELIC THERAPY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP;
9 STUDY

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

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

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

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

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

5 (4) a member of the Vermont Psychiatric Association, appointed by the
6 President;

7 (5) the Executive Director of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice or
8 designee;

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

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

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

13 (c) Powers and duties.

14 (1) The Working Group shall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (f) Meetings.

20 (1) The Vermont Psychological Association shall call the first meeting
21 of the Working Group to occur on or before July 15, 2023.

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

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

4 (4) The Working Group shall cease to exist on January 1, 2025.

5 (g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Working Group
6 shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as
7 permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than eight meetings. These
8 payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

11 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act
12 relating to the establishment of the Psychedelic Therapy Advisory Working
13 Group”

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1 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE