

## Senate Bill 1009 and House Bill 548 - Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances

## SUPPORT w\AMENDMENTS

Carrington & Associates, LLC supports Senate Bill 1009 and its cross-file, House Bill 548, which seek to establish the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances. These bills are essential in promoting scientific research, exploring potential benefits, and addressing risks associated with the responsible use of natural psychedelic substances.

Our firm acknowledges the importance of studying and understanding the impact of natural psychedelic substances on public health and well-being. By establishing a task force comprised of diverse stakeholders, including representatives from various sectors and communities, these bills ensure comprehensive analysis and informed decision-making.

However, Carrington & Associates, LLC regrets that we did not have an opportunity to present this proposed amendment to the House Bill Sponsor, Del. Guzzone, before the bill was presented to the committee. We had intended to propose an amendment to include an additional member from the Maryland cannabis industry, recognized by the state through educational partnerships during the implementation of the medical cannabis program. We trust the committee to consider this proposed amendment and ensure the representation of all relevant stakeholders.

For the foregoing reasons, Carrington & Associates, LLC respectfully requests the committee and the Maryland General Assembly to pass Senate Bill 1009 and House Bill 548 with the proposed amendments. We believe that this legislation will facilitate informed policymaking, promote public health and safety, and advance our understanding of natural psychedelic substances.

Please feel free to contact Darrell Carrington, Managing Director, <u>darrell.carrington@verizon.net</u> or 732-763-7398 if you have any questions or require additional information.