

Supporting HB0548

Good afternoon,

My name is Lauren Going, LCSW-C. I am in support of SB1009 in its current format.

I've been a Maryland resident for 19 years and own a home in Baltimore City. I am a licensed clinical social worker and own a psychedelic assisted therapy practice- Inner Path Wellness- in Baltimore city. We are the first psychedelic assisted therapy practice in Baltimore. I am also a psychedelic assisted therapist and psychedelic integration specialist.

I opened Inner Path Wellness and went into this work because I have seen psychedelic assisted therapy be an extremely effective treatment for PTSD, Major Depressive Disorder, and Anxiety Disorders, among many other hard to treat mental health conditions. In doing this work, I have witnessed profound shifts and positive changes in my clients. I have dedicated my life to this work because I have witnessed firsthand the healing potential of these medicines. In order for these medicines to continue to benefit those in need, we are in need of education around the safe use of psychedelics as well as safe access.

These medicines have the potential for great healing. I believe they will change the mental health field by providing treatments that not only treat symptoms but also help people get to the root of their suffering. But anything that has great power also has the ability to cause harm. It is essential that a task force is created to oversee the rollout of access to these medicines and the psychedelic assisted therapy field.

I beg you to vote in favor of SB1009 to help revolutionize mental health care in the state of Maryland by providing the education and access that is needed to utilize these medicines safely and effectively.

Thank you,

Lauren C. Going LCSW-C