



February 10, 2026

The Honorable Heather Bagnall
Chair, House Health Committee
Room 241, Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

HB0427 – Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances – Extension
FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA), where I serve as the facilitator of the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances, in SUPPORT of HB 427 – Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances – Extension.

As introduced, HB 427 extends the currently authorized Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances by one year, thereby extending the current membership on the Task Force for the Director of the MCA or their designee. MCA is prepared to continue its engagement in the Task Force's activities as part of its regular course of business, utilizing existing resources.

MCA would further note that the Task Force has accomplished a substantial body of work within its allotted timeframe, including the completion and submission of a comprehensive report to the Maryland General Assembly in October 2025 entitled "*Maryland Natural Psychedelic Substance Access Program: A Pathway Forward.*" The Task Force has met regularly and operates efficiently – convening weekly in subcommittees and biweekly as a full body – demonstrating its unwavering commitment to its mandate. Contingent upon the passage of HB 427 as introduced, the Task Force has developed a clear and strategic plan to guide the remainder of its tenure. This extension will provide the Task Force with adequate time to continue refining its recommendations, engaging with critical stakeholders, and advancing the development of a safe, equitable, and accessible natural psychedelic program for the State of Maryland.

In my role facilitating the Task Force's work over the past year, I have observed a level of dedication, subject-matter expertise, and collaborative productivity that distinguishes this body from typical task force operations. I have never encountered a more dedicated, passionate, empathetic, and hardworking group of professionals. While the State often approaches task force extension legislation with caution, I can confidently assure the Committee that this Task Force has unequivocally demonstrated its value and effectiveness and is fully deserving of the proposed extension.

For these reasons, the Maryland Cannabis Administration supports House Bill 427 and respectfully urges the Committee to issue a favorable report. Should the Committee have any questions or concerns, please contact me at Selena.Rawlley@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,
Selena Raj Rawlley
Deputy Chief, Legislative Affairs
Maryland Cannabis Administration