

# SENATE BILL 1009

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CF HB 548

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By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic  
4 Substances to study and make recommendations related to the use of natural  
5 psychedelic substances; and generally relating to the Task Force on Responsible Use  
6 of Natural Psychedelic Substances.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
8 That:

9 ~~(a) (1) In this section, "natural psychedelic substances" means naturally~~  
10 ~~derived psilocybin, psilocin, dimethyltryptamine, and mescaline.~~

11 ~~(2) "Natural psychedelic substances" does not include peyote.~~

12 ~~(b) There is a Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances.~~

13 ~~(c) The Task Force consists of the following members:~~

14 ~~(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland who shall be appointed by the~~  
15 ~~President of the Senate;~~

16 ~~(2) one member of the House of Delegates who shall be appointed by the~~  
17 ~~Speaker of the House;~~

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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1 ~~(3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;~~

2 ~~(4) the Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary's designee;~~

3 ~~(5) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary's designee;~~

4 ~~(6) the Director of the Maryland Cannabis Administration, or the~~  
5 ~~Director's designee; and~~

6 ~~(7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:~~

7 ~~(i) one representative of the University System of Maryland, the~~  
8 ~~Johns Hopkins University's Center for Psychedelic and Consciousness Research, or~~  
9 ~~Sheppard Pratt;~~

10 ~~(ii) one representative of a federally recognized Native American~~  
11 ~~tribe in the State with experience in the religious and spiritual use of psychedelic~~  
12 ~~substances;~~

13 ~~(iii) one individual with expertise in behavioral health;~~

14 ~~(iv) one individual with expertise in the treatment of substance use~~  
15 ~~disorders;~~

16 ~~(v) one individual with expertise in the treatment of chronic pain;~~

17 ~~(vi) one individual with expertise in psychedelic-assisted~~  
18 ~~psychotherapy;~~

19 ~~(vii) one individual with expertise in psychedelic research;~~

20 ~~(viii) one individual with expertise in access to care in underserved~~  
21 ~~communities;~~

22 ~~(ix) one individual with expertise in drug policy reform;~~

23 ~~(x) one individual with expertise as a member of law enforcement;~~  
24 ~~and~~

25 ~~(xi) one individual who is a patient with conditions that can be~~  
26 ~~treated with psychedelic substances.~~

27 ~~(d) To the extent practicable, the membership of the Task Force shall reflect the~~  
28 ~~socioeconomic, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the State.~~

29 ~~(e) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.~~

1       ~~(f) The Maryland Cannabis Administration shall provide staff for the Task Force.~~

2       ~~(g) A member of the Task Force:~~

3           ~~(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but~~

4           ~~(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State~~  
5 ~~Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.~~

6       ~~(h) The Task Force shall:~~

7           ~~(1) study:~~

8                   ~~(i) existing laws, policies, and practices relating to the use of natural~~  
9 ~~psychedelic substances;~~

10                   ~~(ii) the best available science and data on public benefits of~~  
11 ~~responsible access to and use of natural psychedelic substances;~~

12                   ~~(iii) opportunities to maximize public benefits of responsible access to~~  
13 ~~and use of natural psychedelic substances;~~

14                   ~~(iv) the best available data on potential risks of access to and use of~~  
15 ~~natural psychedelic substances;~~

16                   ~~(v) opportunities to mitigate potential risks of access to and use of~~  
17 ~~natural psychedelic substances; and~~

18                   ~~(vi) barriers health care practitioners and facilitators may encounter~~  
19 ~~relating to natural psychedelic substances, including barriers relating to insurance,~~  
20 ~~restrictions by licensing and credentialing entities, zoning, advertising, and financial~~  
21 ~~services;~~

22           ~~(2) make recommendations regarding any changes to State law, policy, and~~  
23 ~~practices needed to create a Maryland Natural Psychedelic Substance Access Program that~~  
24 ~~enables broad, equitable, and affordable access to psychedelic substances, including:~~

25                   ~~(i) permitting requirements, including requirements regarding~~  
26 ~~education and safety;~~

27                   ~~(ii) access to treatment and regulated support; and~~

28                   ~~(iii) production of natural psychedelic substances; and~~

29           ~~(3) make recommendations to transition from criminalizing conduct~~  
30 ~~involving natural psychedelic substances, including:~~

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~~(i) punishing with civil penalties nonviolent infractions involving the planting, cultivating, purchasing, transporting, distributing, or possessing of or other engagement with natural psychedelic substances;~~

~~(ii) expunging the records of Marylanders with convictions for nonviolent criminal offenses relating to natural psychedelic substances; and~~

~~(iii) releasing Marylanders incarcerated for nonviolent criminal offenses relating to natural psychedelic substances.~~

~~(i) The Task Force may consult with experts and stakeholders in conducting its duties.~~

~~(i) On or before July 31, 2025, the Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.~~

(a) (1) In this section, “natural psychedelic substances” includes naturally derived psilocybin, psilocin, dimethyltryptamine, mescaline, and any other substance determined by the Task Force to be a natural psychedelic substance.

(2) “Natural psychedelic substances” does not include peyote.

(b) There is a Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances.

(c) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) one member of the House of Delegates who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary’s designee;

(4) the Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary’s designee;

(5) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary’s designee;

(6) the Director of the Maryland Cannabis Administration, or the Director’s designee; and

(7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) one representative of the University System of Maryland, the Johns Hopkins University’s Center for Psychedelic and Consciousness Research, or Sheppard Pratt;

1                   (ii) one representative of a Native American tribe with experience in  
2 the religious and spiritual use of psychedelic substances;

3                   (iii) one individual with expertise in behavioral health;

4                   (iv) one individual with expertise in the treatment of substance use  
5 disorders;

6                   (v) one individual with expertise in the treatment of chronic pain;

7                   (vi) one individual with expertise in psychedelic-assisted  
8 psychotherapy;

9                   (vii) one individual with expertise in psychedelic research;

10                  (viii) one individual with expertise in access to care in underserved  
11 communities;

12                  (ix) one individual with expertise in drug policy reform;

13                  (x) one individual with expertise as a member of law enforcement;

14                  (xi) one individual who is a patient with conditions that can be  
15 treated with psychedelic substances;

16                  (xii) one individual with experience with the pharmacology of natural  
17 psychedelic substances; and

18                  (xiii) one physician with experience with the appropriate use of  
19 psychedelic substances and other integrative medical practices.

20           (d) To the extent practicable, the membership of the Task Force shall reflect the  
21 socioeconomic, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the State.

22           (e) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

23           (f) The Maryland Cannabis Administration shall provide staff for the Task Force.

24           (g) A member of the Task Force:

25                   (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

26                   (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
27 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

28           (h) The Task Force shall:

1           (1)   study:

2                   (i)   existing laws, policies, and practices relating to the use of natural  
3 psychedelic substances;

4                   (ii) the best available science and data on public benefits of  
5 responsible access to and use of natural psychedelic substances;

6                   (iii) opportunities to maximize public benefits of responsible access to  
7 and use of natural psychedelic substances;

8                   (iv) the best available data on potential risks of access to and use of  
9 natural psychedelic substances;

10                  (v)   opportunities to mitigate potential risks of access to and use of  
11 natural psychedelic substances; and

12                  (vi) barriers health care practitioners and facilitators may encounter  
13 relating to natural psychedelic substances, including barriers relating to insurance,  
14 restrictions by licensing and credentialing entities, zoning, advertising, and financial  
15 services;

16           (2)   make recommendations regarding any changes to State law, policy, and  
17 practices needed to create a Maryland Natural Psychedelic Substance Access Program that  
18 enables broad, equitable, and affordable access to psychedelic substances, including:

19                   (i)   permitting requirements, including requirements regarding  
20 education and safety;

21                   (ii) access to treatment and regulated support; and

22                   (iii) production of natural psychedelic substances; and

23           (3)   make recommendations to transition from criminalizing conduct  
24 involving natural psychedelic substances, including:

25                   (i)   punishing with civil penalties nonviolent infractions involving  
26 the planting, cultivating, purchasing, transporting, distributing, or possessing of or other  
27 engagement with natural psychedelic substances;

28                   (ii) expunging the records of Marylanders with convictions for  
29 nonviolent criminal offenses relating to natural psychedelic substances; and

30                   (iii) releasing Marylanders incarcerated for nonviolent criminal  
31 offenses relating to natural psychedelic substances.

1 (i) The Task Force may consult with experts and stakeholders in conducting its  
2 duties.

3 (j) On or before July 31, 2025, the Task Force shall submit a report of its findings  
4 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
7 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 6 months and, at the end of  
8 December 31, ~~2025~~ 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
9 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.