

HOUSE BILL 427

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6lr2063
CF SB 336

By: **Delegates Guzzone, Bagnall, Boyce, Embry, Foley, Hill, Hutchinson, Moreno, Terrasa, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2026

Assigned to: Health

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 14, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of extending 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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Chapter 793 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2024
9 Section 1 and 2

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 793 of the Acts of 2024

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That:

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

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

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.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (6) the Director of the Maryland Cannabis Administration, or the
11 Director's designee; and

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

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

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

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

19 (iv) one individual with expertise in the treatment of substance use
20 disorders;

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

22 (vi) one individual with expertise in psychedelic-assisted
23 psychotherapy;

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

25 (viii) one individual with expertise in access to care in underserved
26 communities;

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

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

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

3 (xii) one individual with experience with the pharmacology of natural
4 psychedelic substances; and

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

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

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

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

11 (g) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

15 (h) The Task Force shall:

16 (1) study:

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

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

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

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

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

27 (vi) barriers health care practitioners and facilitators may encounter
28 relating to natural psychedelic substances, including barriers relating to insurance,
29 restrictions by licensing and credentialing entities, zoning, advertising, and financial
30 services;

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

4 (i) permitting requirements, including requirements regarding
5 education and safety;

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

7 (iii) production of natural psychedelic substances; and

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

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

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

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

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

19 (j) **(1)** On or before July 31, 2025, the Task Force shall submit a report of its
20 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the
21 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

22 **(2) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 2026, THE TASK FORCE SHALL**
23 **SUBMIT AN UPDATED REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE**
24 **GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT**
25 **ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
27 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] 3 years and 6 months and, at the end of
28 December 31, [2026] 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General
29 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
31 1, 2026.