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ASSOCIATION

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February 20, 2026

Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair  
Senator Antonio Hayes, Vice Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SB 527– Public Health – Ibogaine Clinical Research Grant Program Grant Program**

**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Psychological Association (MPA), which represents over 1,000 doctoral level psychologists throughout the state, asks the Senate Finance Committee to **report favorably on SB 527**.

SB 527 advances Maryland’s commitment to evidence-based innovation in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use disorders, and other serious behavioral health conditions. Emerging scientific research suggests that ibogaine, a naturally occurring psychoactive compound, may offer significant therapeutic benefits for individuals with treatment-resistant psychiatric conditions. Recent observational research involving military veterans with traumatic brain injury and associated psychiatric symptoms demonstrated substantial improvements in PTSD, depression, anxiety, and overall functioning following ibogaine-assisted treatment, with measurable improvements sustained after treatment.

In addition to its potential effects on trauma-related conditions, studies and systematic reviews suggest that ibogaine may reduce substance-use cravings and withdrawal symptoms and may contribute to improvements in mood and trauma-related psychological functioning. Early clinical and observational data have also identified significant reductions in PTSD and depressive symptoms among treated individuals, supporting continued scientific investigation of this treatment approach. The growing national investment in clinical trials, including large-scale research initiatives examining ibogaine’s impact on addiction and behavioral health conditions, reflects increasing recognition of its potential clinical value and the urgent need for novel therapeutic approaches for individuals who do not respond to conventional treatment modalities.

We respectfully urge a **favorable report on SB 527**. If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact MPA’s Legislative Chair, Dr. Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D. at [mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

*Stephanie Wolf, JD, Ph.D.*  
Stephanie Wolf, JD, Ph.D.  
President

*Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D.*  
Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D.  
Chair, MPA Legislative Committee

cc: Barbara Brocato & Dan Shattuck, MPA Government Affairs