

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

*Marjorie C. Decker*

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a pilot program for access to regulated psilocybin.

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

[Pin Slip]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

An Act establishing a pilot program for access to regulated psilocybin.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the  
2 department of public health shall develop a pilot program to allow for the research and  
3 development of psilocybin services for adults with post-traumatic stress disorder, end-of-life  
4 distress, depression, or other specified conditions, as determined by program criteria and needs in  
5 designated geographic areas, as established by the department. This pilot shall be known as the  
6 Psilocybin-Assisted Therapy Program.

7           (b) For the purposes of this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings,  
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:-

9           “Community-based providers”, licensed healthcare and community-based organizations,  
10 including but not limited to, mental health clinics, hospice organizations, veterans' administration  
11 facilities and other community-based therapeutic care organizations that provide services and  
12 care to adults with post-traumatic stress disorder, end-of-life distress, depression, or other  
13 specified conditions, as determined by the department.

14 “Department”, the department of public health.

15 “Local pilot”, the operation of the pilot within each of the designated sites.

16 “Pilot”, the Psilocybin-Assisted Therapy Program, as established in this act.

17 “Psilocybin”, a psychedelic compound produced by fungi, including but not limited to,  
18 members of the genus Psilocybe. Such term shall include psilocin, the substance into which  
19 psilocybin is converted in the human body.

20 (c) The pilot shall provide psilocybin therapy through pathways approved by the federal  
21 food and drug administration to test the effects of providing psilocybin services to adults in  
22 controlled, community-based settings under the supervision of university researchers with  
23 experience administering psychedelic substances in clinical trials. Individuals eligible to  
24 participate in the pilot program must be adults who are 21 years of age or older.

25 (d) The department shall establish professional standards for regulated psychedelic use  
26 and criteria for participation in the pilot, including the number of universities that may  
27 participate in the pilot; provided, that preference shall be given to universities within the  
28 Commonwealth’s public university system. The department shall develop local training and  
29 certification frameworks for psilocybin facilitators to sustain capacity beyond the pilot’s  
30 conclusion. A local pilot shall collect and provide data relevant to potential coverage for the cost  
31 of psilocybin-assisted therapy, as determined by the department.

32 (e) Upon selection to participate in the pilot, qualifying universities shall enter into an  
33 agreement with the department specifying, at minimum:

34 (i) The amount of funding available to the university, through funding mechanisms as  
35 outlined in subsection (k), for the purpose of overseeing the applicable local pilot;

36 (ii) The conditions under which payments will be made to the university;

37 (iii) Data collection and sharing requirements; and

38 (iv) Reporting requirements including, but not limited to, frequency and method of data  
39 reporting and specific data to be reported to the department.

40 (f) The pilot shall collaborate with community-based providers that provide services to  
41 conduct pilot studies of administering psilocybin services to adults with post-traumatic stress  
42 disorder, end-of-life distress, depression, or other specified conditions, as determined by the  
43 department.

44 (g) A university selected to participate in the pilot shall be responsible for:

45 (i) protocol design, except that the research design shall use naturally occurring  
46 psilocybin if there is a federally legal source of natural psilocybin available for FDA-approved  
47 research purposes;

48 (ii) securing institutional review board approvals;

49 (iii) training psilocybin facilitators; and

50 (iv) data collection and reporting as outlined in the university's agreement with the  
51 department.

52 (h) A university overseeing a local pilot shall maintain strict protocols for participant  
53 screening, ensuring facilitator qualifications and training, informed consent, dosing, and follow-  
54 up.

55 (i) The department shall report not later than 12 months after the effective date of this act  
56 and annually thereafter to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the joint  
57 committee on public health and the joint committee on mental health, substance use, and  
58 recovery. The report shall be peer-reviewed and shall include a study of the statewide efficacy of  
59 the pilot, including local community impacts and the feasibility of coverage for psilocybin-  
60 assisted therapy under MassHealth, consistent with any applicable federal guidelines.

61 (j) The sharing of health information, records, and other data with and among pilot  
62 entities and other participating entities shall be permitted to the extent necessary for the activities  
63 and purposes set forth in this act. The department shall establish guidelines consistent with this  
64 act for protecting confidential patient information during the course of the pilot.

65 (k) The pilot may be funded by appropriation, grants, donations, trust funds, or other  
66 funding sources. The funds for establishing a pilot shall be used for:

67 (i) program administration and oversight;

68 (ii) training and qualification of facilitators;

69 (iii) data collection, analysis, and reporting; and

70 (iv) community engagement and education initiatives.

71 (l) The department may establish additional guidelines pursuant to this section through  
72 notice and comment rulemaking in compliance with chapter 111 of the General Laws.

73 (m) The pilot shall have a total duration of no less than two years.

74 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2026.