

SB 1580 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates a Task Force on Psilocybin Health Equity staffed by the Legislative Policy and Research Office. Sets forth the composition of the Task Force and its scope. Prohibits appointed legislators from voting. Requires a report to the legislature by November 1, 2022. Sunsets January 2, 2023. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Concern about overlap with existing Equity Subcommittee that currently informs the full Psilocybin Advisory Board
- Distinguishing between the Equity Subcommittee's role and the role of a legislatively created task force
- Task force envisioned as building on prior work of Equity Subcommittee; concerned with practical matters; being the next step in regulatory roll-out
- Concern about presentation of Equity Subcommittee recommendations to the full Psilocybin Advisory Board
- Comparison with cannabis legalization and regulatory roll-out; desire to put equity issues at the center or to prioritize equity issues first

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2020, Oregon voters approved Ballot Measure 109 legalizing adult use of psilocybin products for therapeutic purposes. A two-year development period ensued during which the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has been working with an internal advisory body, the Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board (the Board), to stand-up the regulatory framework necessary for implementation. The Board includes a broad range of stakeholders and has organized its membership into five internal subcommittees, one each on Equity, Licensing, Products, Research, and Training. The Board is directed to issue its findings and recommendation by June 30, 2022; OHA is directed to adopt rules by December 31, 2022; and licensing is scheduled to begin January 2, 2023.

Senate Bill 1580 creates a Task Force on Psilocybin Health Equity to study equitable access to services, licensure and other opportunities, and make recommendations to the legislature by November 1, 2022.