

Dear Chair Rep. Rob Nosse, Vice Chairs Rep. Christine Goodwin & Rep. Travis Nelson (my own area Rep.), and committee members,

I am writing to you in opposition of SB303A as is, and in support of the OPSCC SB303 Amendment presented. Please understand that I personally value and agree that making sure the Oregon Psilocybin Services Act (OPSA) is safe for all participants. This is important!

How does the Opt-In, versus Opt-out option matter? Trauma and consent is why it matters.

**Changing the process from clients opt-ing out of having aggregate info submitted to OHA, to clients opt-ing in**

- a. Healing Advocacy Fund: “We do not agree with the premise proposed by this amendment that this modification will have any substantial impact on the number and or demographic of clients that will be seeking services.”

As a person who has survived multiple traumas where my consent was robbed of me, it's vital that I be fully in consent when interacting with the Oregon Psilocybin Services Act. I have already personally experienced my consent being discarded, around a psychedelic experience, under this act (during practicum for Facilitator Training by individuals with different life experiences that left them unable to fully understand my consent) and that has very much negatively impacted my life. The act speaks of the therapeutic benefits of the use of Psilocybin. Without the trust of full consent, healing is impaired - full stop.

When people have experienced trauma and come to a space for healing around that, they can be in a state of anxiousness and even experience somewhat of a jumbledness in their own minds, to use a non formal term. While I hope that each facilitator will be attentive to make sure their clients understand the multitude of documents they will have to sign in order to partake of psilocybin under the OPSA, the reality is that survivors of trauma can look fine from the outside and have a whole other world of reality inside. Dissociation is one possibility, being rushed to just get to the help can be another. And consciously Opting IN rather than having a default of being opted in, is a HUGE deal.

While I'm not a therapist or mental health professional, I am a person who has experienced: rape, sexual assault, domestic violence (as a child and later as an adult), sexual harrassment, assault, stalking, bullying, and harrassment.

From personal experience it took being around people who really showed me that my consent mattered to realize I had been conditioned from childhood to unconsciously believe my consent did not matter, and that was in my early 30s!

So the bottom line is CONSENT MATTERS. And defaulting to being automatically opted-in, rather than an individual consciously choosing to Opt-in makes a big difference. A difference that not every Psilocybin Facilitator might have the life experience to really understand why this matters, so may not pick up that a client might need to have this really clearly illuminated when

filling out the multitude of forms before a Psilocybin Administration Session. In practice, as is SB303a with the automatic Opted-in status, many Facilitators might just breeze over this form during the Preparation Session. Some facilitators may send the many preparation forms to a client before they meet via zoom or in person and not think to spend much time on this particular form and its subject matter. Having SB303 be consciously Opt-in is the highest ethical choice around consent. And you lawmakers have the power NOW, to show the people participating in the OPSA, that you care about consent; and will take the highest road to ensure each individual participating in Oregon statewide legal Psilocybin Services is truly in consent!

The reality is that neither you (lawmakers) nor the OHA, nor the Healing Advocacy Fund will be sitting with the clients to explain all of this. Licensed Psilocybin Facilitators will be in front of the clients and not all of them will have the life experience to understand the importance of this particular point, and its potential major impact on the therapeutic quality of psilocybin journeys.

Thanks for your time and consideration to this particular point in SB303a.

I also endorse the entirety of the OPSCC amendment put forth for your consideration as I believe it addresses further vital issues around privacy in SB303a.

Best regards, Rev. Rebecca Friend