

Submitter: Gary Bracelin
On Behalf Of: Drop Thesis
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5025

February 17, 2025

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services

900 Court Street NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division: Oregon Psilocybin Services Budget

Co-Chairs Campos and Valderrama, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to share information regarding the Oregon Psilocybin Services budget under the Public Health Division.

My name is Gary Bracelin, and I am the owner of Drop Thesis Psilocybin Service Center in Bend, Oregon. Since Measure 109 passed in 2020, our center has been serving individuals with a range of mental health challenges, including treatment-resistant depression, PTSD, anxiety, addiction, trauma, and more. We've seen firsthand how psilocybin therapy has significantly improved the lives of clients, offering renewed hope and lasting benefits with as little as one session.

We work with a diverse group of individuals, each with their own intentions and needs. Despite varying conditions, we have experienced zero adverse effects to date. Every day, our clients come seeking a safe and supportive environment where they can explore their healing through psilocybin.

However, as we navigate a heavily regulated landscape, the challenges are real. The cost of licensing is steep, and the regulatory burdens continue to grow, which significantly hampers our ability to provide these services. In contrast, underground providers face no such challenges. We are still in our infancy, and we dedicate considerable effort to educating the public about the benefits of a legal psilocybin framework, but these efforts require support and time.

The Psilocybin Services Program Improvement Bill (HB 2387) offers a promising path to address these challenges, strengthen the program, and better integrate psilocybin services into Oregon's healthcare systems. We are at a pivotal moment, and with your support, we can ensure this innovative program fulfills its potential and provides equitable access to much-needed mental health care.

Oregon has a unique opportunity to lead the nation in addressing mental health challenges with compassion and innovation. Let's give this program the resources it needs to succeed, fulfill the voters' will, and become a model for others.

Sincerely,

Gary Bracelin
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