

SB 1580 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Action Date: 02/10/22

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 3-0-2-0

Yeas: 3 - Gelser Blouin, Lieber, Sollman

Exc: 2 - Kennemer, Robinson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates Task Force on Psilocybin Health Equity (Task Force) staffed by the Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO). Establishes Task Force composition and scope. Prohibits appointed legislators from voting. Requires a report to the legislature by November 1, 2022. Sunsets Task Force 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
- Envisioning Task Force as building on prior work of Equity Subcommittee; concerned with practical implementation matters; being a 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 recommendations 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.