



April 10, 2026

The Honorable Matt Bliss
Co-Chair
House Veterans and Military Affairs Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Jay Xiong
Co-Chair
House Veterans and Military Affairs Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Co-Chair Bliss and Co-Chair Xiong,

We write to express our strong support for HF 4577, legislation that would establish a regulated psilocybin therapeutic use program in Minnesota, allowing supervised access to psilocybin-assisted therapy for qualifying patients while incorporating comprehensive clinical safeguards, clear regulatory standards, and expanded patient and provider protections. This critical legislation represents an important step toward expanding safe, evidence-informed treatment options for individuals, particularly veterans, experiencing serious mental health conditions, and ensuring they have access to innovative therapies within a structured and professionally supervised framework.

Veterans are one of the most vulnerable populations when it comes to mental health. Since 2001, over 125,000 veterans have died by suicide, and 29% of Global War on Terrorism veterans are known to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The disproportionate incidence of PTSD among veterans is also a driver of the disproportionate incidence of suicide among them. We lose no less than 17 and by some estimates as many as 44 U.S. veterans to suicide every day, at nearly double the rate of non-veteran Americans lost to suicide each year.¹

Clearly, current mental health treatment options available to our veterans through VA healthcare facilities have been far from universally effective. Our veterans and their families need access to alternative therapies that address the complexity of the challenges they face following service to our nation. As demonstrated by ongoing medical and scientific research, psychedelic therapies are rapidly emerging as an effective tool in treating PTSD, traumatic brain injury (TBI), treatment-resistant depression, substance use disorder, anxiety, and other mental health indications that fuel disproportionate rates of suicide among the veteran population.

Founded in 2019, Veterans Exploring Treatment Solutions (VETS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to end the veteran suicide epidemic by providing resources, research, and advocacy for U.S. military veterans seeking psychedelic-assisted therapies for TBI, PTSD,

¹ "44 Veteran Suicides a Day - What We're Doing Isn't Working, Alternative Treatments Are Needed! - SOAA." SOAA, 30 June 2023, soaa.org/44-veteran-suicides-daily/.

addiction, and other health conditions. VETS envisions a world where our veterans have access to the most advanced healthcare options to heal from the mental and physical wounds of war. VETS has supported over 1,000 U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) veterans and veteran spouses to access psychedelic-assisted therapy (PAT) treatment abroad, paired with preparation and integration coaching, through our “Foundational Healing Grants” Program.

HF 4577 represents an important step toward establishing a regulated framework for psilocybin-assisted therapy in Minnesota. The legislation would create a state-supervised psilocybin therapeutic use program for adults with qualifying medical conditions, while establishing detailed clinical safeguards and protections for registered patients, facilitators, and health care practitioners. Passage of HF 4577 would position Minnesota as a national leader in responsible psychedelic policy, advancing evidence-informed approaches to mental health treatment and therapeutic innovation within a structured and professionally regulated program.

HF 4577 does not legalize or broadly decriminalize psilocybin. Instead, it establishes a regulated psilocybin therapeutic use program under state oversight, creating a structured pathway for supervised access for eligible participants. The legislation outlines clinical screening requirements, licensure and registration standards for facilitators and treatment centers, and safeguards designed to protect patients and practitioners within a controlled therapeutic setting. By advancing a carefully regulated framework, Minnesota would join a growing number of states exploring structured, health-centered approaches to emerging therapies while prioritizing patient safety, accountability, and responsible oversight.

With bipartisan support, states across the nation are recognizing the need to act urgently, and Minnesota has a unique opportunity to continue leading by example with a comprehensive, forward-thinking approach. By enacting this legislation, the North Star State will not only honor its commitment to those who have served but also set a precedent for responsible, research-driven policymaking that could save countless lives.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to our nation’s heroes. VETS stands ready to assist in any way possible to support the successful implementation of this vital initiative.

Respectfully,

Logan Davidson

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