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ADVANCING JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

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Date: April 14, 2026

Re: HF 4577 - Psilocybin Therapeutic Use Pilot Program

Position: SUPPORT

To: Minnesota House Veterans and Military Affairs Committee

Distinguished Committee Members,

As an organization of law enforcement professionals, Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP) is writing to express our strong support for HF 4577, which would establish a medically-supervised pilot program for regulated psilocybin access in Minnesota. We believe this legislation is essential for improving public health and safety.

LEAP is an international nonprofit group of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who speak from firsthand experience serving in the justice system. Our mission is to make communities safer by focusing law enforcement resources on the greatest threats to public safety, addressing the root causes of crime, and working toward healing police-community relations.

As law enforcement professionals, we have unfortunately all seen how the current system fails veterans, first responders, and others living with complex mental health conditions like PTSD or depression, often meeting them with stigma and punishment instead of support. [Denying these people opportunities to explore potentially promising treatments—or worse yet, saddling them with criminal records or resorting to incarceration—only exacerbates underlying issues](#), draining law enforcement resources and eroding public trust in our justice system.

The need for alternative mental health treatments is perhaps most urgent among our veterans and first responders. Research reports that [at least 44 veterans commit suicide each day](#). Our first responders, including law enforcement, suffer traumatic stress at a [rate five times higher than that of civilians](#), contributing to some of the highest rates of domestic violence, alcoholism, and substance use disorder. We owe

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it to these public servants to expand alternative treatment options so they have the choice to heal, rather than just numb themselves to the daily traumas they experience on the job.

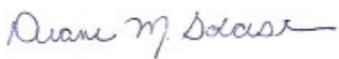
One promising tool in addressing the current mental health crisis is psilocybin- assisted therapy. Psychedelic-assisted therapy with psilocybin shows so much promise that the [FDA recently granted it a “breakthrough therapy”](#) designation for depression, meaning that it may demonstrate substantial improvement over currently available treatment options. Clinical studies have shown that [psychedelics such as psilocybin can provide transformative benefits](#) for individuals managing serious mental health issues. Additionally, [psychedelic use has been associated with significant reductions in opioid use](#). Talk-therapy, daily medication, and other coping mechanisms help some people get by, but for many, these tools are not sufficient.

Fortunately, Minnesota now has the opportunity to offer hope to individuals who truly need help, by allowing them to access psilocybin-assisted treatment in a safe and regulated environment. HF 4577 would establish a pilot program for the supervised use of psilocybin to treat mental health and substance use issues. This small pilot program would have an initial cap of 20 to 50 facilitators, and over three years would serve a maximum of 1,000 patients statewide. Participants in the pilot program would need to be at least 21 years old and diagnosed with a qualifying condition, such as PTSD, treatment-resistant depression, or substance use disorder. All participants would undergo medical screening and attend preparatory sessions. This legislation would not affect recreational use or retail sales of psilocybin.

With rising rates of [depression](#) and [PTSD](#), the need for innovative solutions has never been greater. Supporting HF 4577 is a necessary step toward addressing the mental health and substance-use crisis in Minnesota and providing hope to those in need.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective in support of this important legislation.

Respectfully,



Lt. Diane Goldstein (Ret.)
Redondo Beach Police Department
Executive Director, The Law Enforcement Action Partnership