

Fw: Psychedelic Therapies Legislation

Andy Smith <Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov>

Tue 3/7/2023 11:16 AM

To: Robin Schmidt <Robin.Schmidt@house.mn.gov>

Another email to file away for hf1884.

Rep. Andy Smith

House District 25 B

411 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-9249

Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov

Legislative Assistant: Robin Schmidt robin.schmidt@house.mn.gov

From: Jennifer Birkholz <birkholzjennifer@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 2:17 PM

To: Andy Smith <Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov>

Subject: Re: Psychedelic Therapies Legislation

Hi Rep Smith,

Absolutely. When do you need a letter by and what type of information is helpful in a letter?

Are you connected with Dr. Jessica Nielson who is studying psychedelics at University of Minnesota? I'm sure she and others are more versed on the topic. There are also a handful of ketamine clinics who will be great sources.

I see a second report not due until January 2025. Does it have to take until 2025 to get Minnesotans more access or might it go faster?

I see your bill is focused on treatments only. One thing to consider for treatment regulation is that the treatment legislation should not be for treatment resistant conditions only. People should not have to go through the long process of trying various pharmaceuticals and endure the side effects, costs and dragging out improvement if they choose to treat with psychedelics. There won't be enough licensed psychologists to meet the need for 1 to 1 sessions so there should be a wider net for some type of coaches, centers or public education on standards to watch for. I understand that the task force will work out the details, just wanted to give you that to think about while you are talking about it.

There does seem to be some different views on legalization and decriminalization. Does decriminalization require a separate bill?

Thanks for your work on this!
Jennifer Birkholz

On Mon, Feb 27, at 1:31 PM Andy Smith <Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov> wrote:

Hello Jennifer,

Thank you for your support and it sounds like you would be a great potential help to the task force. However, before we assemble the task force, we have to get [HF1884](#) passed. Would you be willing to write a letter of support that I can present with my bill when it comes before the Health Committee?

Warmly,

Rep. Andy Smith
House District 25 B
411 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-9249
Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov

Legislative Assistant: Robin Schmidt robin.schmidt@house.mn.gov

From: Jennifer Birkholz <birkholzjennifer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:30 AM
To: Andy Smith <Rep.Andy.Smith@house.mn.gov>
Subject: Psychedelic Therapies Legislation

Dear Representative Smith,

I understand that you are exploring writing a bill to address psychedelic mental health treatments. I'm wondering if you need assistance with research or if there is a group in Minnesota who I can help to coordinate or support to lay the legislative foundation for opening access. I think it is very important to expand mental health treatment options and am encouraged by the psychedelic therapy studies so I want to help expedite the process.

My background is in business development and project management and I have a degree in social science. I'm strategic, creative and resourceful so even though I have no legislative experience beyond being an election judge, feel free to let me know what you need.

Thank you.

Jennifer Birkholz
651-503-7790
Birkholzjennifer@gmail.com

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Jennifer Birkholz
651-503-7790
jenniferbirkholz@edinarealty.com
www.birchwoodbluehomes.com

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Jennifer Birkholz
651-503-7790

jenniferbirkholz@edinarealty.com
www.birchwoodbluehomes.com