

HB 427 Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances - Extension

Health Committee

February 10, 2026

Position: FAVORABLE

Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD) is a nonprofit education and advocacy organization that brings together consumers, families, clinicians, advocates and concerned citizens for unified action in all aspects of mental health and substance use disorders (collectively referred to as behavioral health). We appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of House Bill 427.

HB 427 extends the work of the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances.

Psychedelic-assisted therapies hold enormous promise for treating some of the most intractable mental health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and alcohol use disorder. With studies at top research institutions like Johns Hopkins, New York University, and Imperial College London showing compelling results, psychedelic medicine is rapidly gaining broad public attention.

At the same time, the complexity of issues surrounding the equitable adoption of these treatments – in particular, around how to ensure successful adoption within the behavioral health field – is significant. Professional practice guidelines, training standards, and unified reimbursement strategies that will enable providers to receive equitable reimbursement from payers for delivering psychedelic-assisted therapy are all major policy areas that must be considered and defined.

The Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances is helping to determine how best to responsibly advance the use of psychedelic substances in a responsible, safe and data driven manner that ensures broad, equitable, and affordable access to these substances. MHAMD supports HB 427 to ensure a continuation of this important work.

For more information, please contact Dan Martin at (410) 978-8865