



Mental Health and Psychedelic Medicine Task Force

An Act establishing the Alaska mental health and psychedelic medicine task force; and providing for an effective date.

CSHB 228 (MLV) - 33-LS0976\Y

Summary of Changes from Previous Version \R

1. In section 1 (a), after "The purpose of the task force is to," new language is added that reads "prepare for the potential medicalization of psychedelic medicines by the United States Food and Drug Administration; to make policy recommendations to the Alaska State Legislature concerning insurance and licensure, given the unique nature of the administration of psychedelic medicines; and to ensure the state is prepared if psychedelic medicines become available for prescription." This change clarifies the purpose of the task force is only to ensure the state is prepared if the federal government authorizes prescriptions of psychedelic medicines, and not to advocate for or against the medicalization of psychedelics.
2. In section 1 (a) (4), the existing language which reads "consider legal and regulatory pathways to the legalization of psychedelic medicines in the state, and the potential effects of the medicines on public health" is replaced with language that reads "consider legal and regulatory changes that could be necessary in the state after federal medical approval of psychedelic medicines." This change is also made to clarify the purpose and work of the task force.
3. In section 1 (b) (5), the language "one of whom must be a recognized ethnoherbalist," is deleted. This change is made to give the Alaska Native Health Board more latitude to choose their representatives to the task force.
4. A new subsection is added as 1 (b) (8), and following subsections are renumbered. The new subsection 1 (b) (8) reads: "One member representing licensed therapists or counselors, appointed by the board of directors of the Alaska Addiction Professionals Association." This change recognizes that therapists or counselors would be involved in the administration of psychedelic medicines and adds a representative from the field to the task force.
5. In section 1 (e), the language "but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180" is deleted. This change removes state funding for board travel.



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6. Section 1 (f) (2) which instructs the task force to “ensure members are available for legislative hearings” is deleted, as the task force will terminate before the next legislative session.
7. Section 1 (g) is reworded to clarify the termination date of the task force is when the Thirty-Fourth Alaska Legislature convenes in January 2025, not when the Thirty-Fifth Alaska Legislature convenes in January 2027. This change aligns with the existing task force report due date of December 31, 2024.