

Chair Mullica and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to share testimony today.

This letter is submitted by a group of board-certified psychiatrists practicing across Colorado. We are writing to express our support for Senate Bill 25 297 which creates a framework to responsibly track participation, safety, and outcomes in Colorado's regulated psilocybin therapy program.

Colorado, like much of the country, is facing a deepening mental health crisis. Rates of depression, anxiety, PTSD, and addiction have surged in recent years, and for many, conventional treatments have proven insufficient. In this context, psilocybin-assisted therapy has emerged as a promising, research-backed intervention for some of our most challenging cases.

When Colorado voters approved the regulated psilocybin therapy program in 2022, they made it clear that they support access to safe, supervised psychedelic therapy for adults 21 and over. The program they approved is rooted in evidence-based practices and includes safeguards around screening, facilitator training and integrated care. But to truly ensure the success of this program—and to uphold our duty to the public—we need robust tools to track outcomes and ensure continuous improvement.

A data-driven framework for outcome measurement, as proposed in this bill, is essential. It will allow us to better understand who is participating in the program, why they are seeking psilocybin therapy, and what results they are experiencing. This information will enable healing centers, facilitators, and state regulators to adapt, refine, and improve care over time. It will help identify where the program is thriving and where it may need course correction—before small issues become larger concerns.

Importantly, we support a framework that prioritizes privacy. There are well-established models in healthcare, from hospitals to mental health clinics, for collecting de-identified data in ways that protect patient confidentiality while still generating valuable insights. We believe the same standard can and should apply to psilocybin therapy. With appropriate protections in place, outcome tracking can be done ethically, safely, and in the service of better care.

Colorado is at the forefront of psychedelic policy. Other states are watching us closely. If we want to lead with integrity and responsibility, we must demonstrate that a regulated psychedelic program can be not only innovative, but accountable and effective. The data we collect here will shape national conversations, inform future legislation, further guide scientific research and treatment protocol development, and—most importantly—help save lives.

As psychiatrists, we are trained to evaluate treatments based on evidence, outcomes, and safety. We believe this bill is a logical and necessary step in ensuring that Colorado's psilocybin therapy program lives up to its promise. We urge you to support it and to help us build a system that is both compassionate and accountable. Thank you for the opportunity to share this perspective.

Signed,

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