

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON DECLARING THAT THE INVESTIGATION, ARREST, AND PROSECUTION OF ANYONE ENGAGING IN ENTHEOGEN-RELATED ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE AMONG THE CITY OF OLYMPIA'S LOWEST LAW ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES AND STATING THE COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR FULL DECRIMINALIZATION OF THESE ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, entheogen is a term that encompasses any living, fresh, dried, or processed plant or fungal material, including teas or powders, that may contain currently scheduled or analog psychoactive indolamines, tryptamines, or phenethylamines, including, but not limited to, psilocybin mushrooms, ayahuasca tea, mescaline, and iboga; and

WHEREAS, depression, severe anxiety, problematic substance use, post-traumatic stress, end-of-life anxiety, grief, intergenerational trauma, and other physical and mental conditions are plaguing many communities, and scientific and clinical studies show the benefits of entheogens in treating these conditions; and

WHEREAS, communities face unprecedented mental health crisis, unprecedented suicide rates especially among veterans and marginalized groups, and a deepening opioid addiction crisis.

WHEREAS, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sanctioned clinical trials show positive results that demonstrate the safety and efficacy of psilocybin assisted therapy; and

WHEREAS, the FDA designate psilocybin assisted therapy as a breakthrough therapy for treatment-resistant depression in 2018 and major depressive disorder in 2019; and

WHEREAS, human cultures around the world recognize entheogens as sacred and use them as part of their religious practices; and

WHEREAS, a variety of jurisdictions in the United States, including Seattle, Port Townsend, and Jefferson County have decriminalized entheogens, and Colorado, Oregon, and Washington D.C. have decriminalized some or all entheogens through successful ballot initiatives; and

WHEREAS, decriminalization of entheogens does not undermine the seriousness of the opioid epidemic and impact of harmful substances on the lives of individuals, families, and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Olympia, Washington, that the Council declares that the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of anyone engaging in entheogen-related activities, including but not limited to the cultivation of entheogens for use in religious, spiritual, healing, or personal growth practices, should be a City of Olympia low enforcement priority and declares no city funds or resources should be for investigation, prosecution, and arrest of individuals solely for entheogenic plants and fungi. The Council states its support for the full decriminalization of these activities at the state and federal level.

ADOPTED by the City Council of Olympia, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof, held this __ day of _____ 2024.