



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Human Rights Commission

Recommendation Number 20201002-002g: Recommendation for City Council to Decriminalize Possession and Use of Psilocybin

WHEREAS, our community, in various ways, has expressed a desire to reimagine law enforcement in our city; and,

WHEREAS; A 2010 Dutch study comparing 19 different illicit and/or recreational substances placed psilocybin lower on the list for addictive possibility than cannabis, alcohol, and tobacco; and,

WHEREAS, A 2017 Johns Hopkins University study identifies psilocybin as a possible therapeutic for addiction, anxiety, and depression; including a possibility to aid in smoking cessation despite tobacco being recognized as possibly the most addictive substance for human consumption; and,

WHEREAS, The municipalities of Denver, Colorado, Oakland, California, and Santa Cruz, California have already decriminalized the possession of psilocybin with little ill effects to report; and,

WHEREAS, Brazil, Jamaica, The Netherlands, Samoa, have fully legalized possession and use while The British Virgin Islands, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain have all decriminalized use and/or possession in some way; and,

WHEREAS, The Drug War has been objectively one of the most negative policies for Black and Brown communities in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Human Rights Commission of the City of Austin recommends the City Council of Austin pass an ordinance and/or legal framework which has the effect of decriminalizing possession and individual use of "magic mushrooms"/psilocybin.

Date of Approval: _____

Record of the vote:

Attest: _____