



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 07 2023

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 58 without my signature.

This bill would, beginning on January 1, 2025, decriminalize the possession, preparation, obtaining, or transportation of specified quantities of mescaline, dimethyltryptamine (DMT), psilocybin, and psilocyn, for personal use by persons 21 years of age or older. This bill would also decriminalize the therapeutic use of the substances following the Legislature's adoption of a framework governing therapeutic use.

Both peer-reviewed science and powerful personal anecdotes lead me to support new opportunities to address mental health through psychedelic medicines like those addressed in this bill. Psychedelics have proven to relieve people suffering from certain conditions such as depression, PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and other addictive personality traits. This is an exciting frontier and California will be on the front-end of leading it.

California should immediately begin work to set up regulated treatment guidelines – replete with dosing information, therapeutic guidelines, rules to prevent against exploitation during guided treatments, and medical clearance of no underlying psychoses. Unfortunately, this bill would decriminalize possession prior to these guidelines going into place, and I cannot sign it.

I urge the legislature to send me legislation next year that includes therapeutic guidelines. I am, additionally, committed to working with the legislature and sponsors of this bill to craft legislation that would authorize permissible uses and consider a framework for potential broader decriminalization in the future, once



the impacts, dosing, best practice, and safety guardrails are thoroughly contemplated and put in place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom". The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with a long horizontal line extending to the right. A small black dot is visible above the signature.

Gavin Newsom