

By: Johnson of Dallas

H.B. No. 4561

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Alternative Mental Health Therapy Research Consortium and to certain plans, programs, and studies related to the provision of those alternative mental health therapies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter I-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER I-1. ALTERNATIVE MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIES

Sec. 531.331. ALTERNATIVE MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM. (a) In this section, "consortium" means the Texas Alternative Mental Health Therapy Research Consortium.

(b) The commission shall establish the Texas Alternative Mental Health Therapy Research Consortium.

(c) The consortium is composed of:

(1) academic scholars with knowledge of the efficacy of providing mental health therapy using psychedelics;

(2) representatives of health-related institutions providing alternative mental health therapies using ketamine;

(3) mental health professionals who specialize in providing mental health care to veterans; and

(4) representatives of an advocacy group for alternative mental health therapies using psychedelics.

(d) The executive commissioner shall appoint the members of

1 the consortium.

2 (e) The consortium shall research the efficacy of providing  
3 mental health care through the provision of psychedelic drugs and  
4 ketamine, focusing on the provision of mental health care to  
5 veterans in this state through the use of those alternative  
6 therapies.

7 (f) The consortium shall solicit, and the commission may  
8 accept on behalf of the consortium, a gift, grant, or donation made  
9 from any public or private source to accomplish the purposes of this  
10 section.

11 Sec. 531.332. GRANT PROGRAM FOR KETAMINE CLINICS. (a) The  
12 commission shall establish and administer a grant program to  
13 establish ketamine clinics in this state.

14 (b) In addition to money appropriated by the legislature,  
15 the commission may accept gifts, grants, or donations from any  
16 source to administer and finance the grant program established  
17 under this section.

18 Sec. 531.333. PLAN FOR KETAMINE THERAPY VOUCHER PROGRAM FOR  
19 VETERANS. The commission shall develop a plan to establish a  
20 voucher program to provide ketamine therapy to veterans.

21 Sec. 531.334. RULES. The executive commissioner shall  
22 adopt rules to implement this subchapter.

23 SECTION 2. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission  
24 shall conduct a study to evaluate the efficacy of using alternative  
25 therapies, including the use of ibogaine and 5-MeO-DMT, to treat  
26 veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder,  
27 depression, and mild traumatic brain injury.

1           (b) As part of the study conducted under Subsection (a) of  
2 this section, the commission must review scientific literature  
3 related to alternative therapies.

4           (c) Not later than December 1, 2024, the Health and Human  
5 Services Commission shall prepare and submit a report to the  
6 legislature containing the findings of the study and any  
7 recommendations for legislative action.

8           (d) This section expires September 1, 2025.

9           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.