

Passed Dec. 11: A Resolution Supporting Adult Access, Education, and Innovation in Plant Medicine

3 Supporting, 1 Abstained, 1 Against

- WHEREAS:** Psychedelic plants and fungi such as psilocybin mushrooms, ayahuasca, ibogaine, and mescaline-containing cacti have been shown by peer-reviewed studies and indigenous practice to be beneficial for treating spiritual trauma, addiction, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, terminal illness anxiety, and cluster headaches among other conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** On average, we lose one of our neighbors in Barnstable County to opioid overdose every week, as thousands of people we love struggle with addictions that plant medicine can alleviate physiologically and spiritually with deliberate, educated, and de-stigmatized use; and
- WHEREAS:** Provincetown is a beacon of hope for people processing their trauma, celebrating life, and embracing their authentic selves from every corner of the globe, underscoring the moral necessity to create affordable, accessible, and innovative services with plant medicines; and
- WHEREAS:** Six Massachusetts communities—Somerville, Cambridge, Northampton, Easthampton, Amherst, and Salem—and nearly two dozen cities nationwide have passed measures directing an end to arrests for growing and sharing these plant medicines, embracing their inferred constitutional right to regulate public safety that is outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice’s Cole Memorandum that permitted localities to deprioritize enforcement of cannabis; and
- RESOLVED:** That the Provincetown Select Board hereby requests that the use and possession of all controlled substances should be understood first and primarily as an issue of public health by all town entities and that no Provincetown employee should use any town resources to assist in enforcement of laws criminalizing personal controlled substance possession; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the Provincetown Select Board hereby requests that investigation and arrest of adults for planting, cultivating, transporting, distributing, engaging in practices with, and/or possessing psychedelic plants and fungi listed in Schedules I-V of 21 U.S.C. § 812 of the Controlled Substances Act shall be the lowest law enforcement priority for Provincetown; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That this resolution does not authorize nor enable any of the following activities: commercial sale of psychedelic plants and fungi, possessing or distributing these materials near schools, driving under the influence of these materials; nor public disturbance; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the Provincetown Select Board calls upon state lawmakers to substitute the “Natural Psychedelic Substances Act” (a ballot question written by a DC-based PAC), with language that legalizes plant medicine services in a straightforward manner without an unelected control commission prone to regulatory capture by interests outside our communities; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the Provincetown Select Board calls upon the Cape & Islands District Attorney to cease prosecution of persons involved in the possession, cultivation, or distribution of psychedelic plants and fungi as well as personal possession of controlled substances; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the Provincetown Select Board endorses the passage of Senator Jehlen and Rep. Sabadosa’s S.1009 / H.1754 An Act Relative to Plant Medicine and asks that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Maura Healey, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, House Speaker Ronald Mariano, Senate Leader Karen Spilka, Judiciary Committee Chairs Senator Jamie Eldridge & Rep. Michael Day, and Cape & Islands District Attorney Robert J Galibois.