



# MAINE CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

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## **Statement of Support to L.D. 1914, An Act to Enact the Maine Psilocybin Health Access Act May 16, 2023**

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the distinguished Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. My name is Charles Rumsey. I am the Chief of the Cumberland Police Department, and the President of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association. I am submitting testimony on behalf of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association in opposition to LD 1914.

The Mission of the Maine Chiefs of Police is to secure a closer official and personal relationship among Maine Police Officials; to secure a unity of action in law enforcement matters; to enhance the standards of police personnel, police training and police professionalism generally; to devise ways and means for equality of law enforcement throughout the state of Maine; to advance the prevention and detection of crime; to prescribe to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics; and to promote the profession of law enforcement as an integral and dedicated force in today's society sworn to the protection of life and property.

According to the concept draft bill summary,

This bill enacts the Maine Psilocybin Health Access Act, which establishes a regulatory framework in order to provide psilocybin products to individuals in Maine who are 21 years of age or older.

The Maine Chiefs oppose enactment of LD 1914 for two main reasons.

First, it would create an entirely new regulatory process that would be pushed on the towns without the option to opt in. Maine is still grappling with the unresolved issues in the adult and medical use for cannabis and adding a new substance would complicate things too much.

Second, it would allow for personal use of psilocybin. We do not take any position on the clinical and therapeutic benefits of psilocybin but we do not think that there is enough information out there for the public to begin to safely consume it without guidance of a medical professional.

For these reasons, we would ask you to oppose LD 1914 and vote ought not to pass on this bill. On behalf of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association, we want to thank the members for your work on this Committee.