

The Best Credit Cards Of 2019

Best Travel Credit Cards

Best Business Credit Cards

Best Credit Card Sign Up Bonuses

27,892 views | Jun 14, 2019, 03:21pm

Efforts To Decriminalize Magic Mushrooms Beginning To Sprout Nationally



Lisette Voytko Forbes Staff
Consumer
Breaking News Reporter

f
t
in



Magic mushrooms are classified as a Schedule I drug by the federal government. 2007 APF

Topline: Denver and Oakland recently [passed measures](#) decriminalizing magic mushrooms, and it appears to be part of a larger, slow-moving movement to make psilocybin (the mushrooms' psychedelic ingredient) available for treatments for depression and other medicinal purposes, and, of course, recreational purposes.

- **Oregon:** The Pacific Northwest is considering a [2020 ballot measure](#) to allow Oregonians to use "guided psilocybin services" for therapeutic purposes. The Psilocybin Service Initiative is the organization behind the measure, and it is working to get the 100,000 petition signatures needed to secure a place on the state's 2020 election ballot.
- **California:** After the Oakland measure passed, an organization called Decriminalize California is working on a [statewide decriminalization measure](#) for the 2020 election. (A similar measure failed to garner enough petition signatures last year.) According to the organization's strategy timeline, it is fundraising in advance of its fall campaign for petition signatures and promotion.
- **Iowa:** State Representative Jeff Shipley, a Republican with a libertarian streak, [introduced two magic mushroom-focused bills](#) in February. One bill would remove psilocybin from Iowa's list of controlled substances, and the second would allow medical usage of the substance. Since their introduction, the bills have languished in Iowa's house.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez [introduced legislation](#) last week to allow federally funded scientific research of psychedelics, including psilocybin, in the treatment of mental health diseases. As it stands, the government prohibits [using federal funds](#) for any Schedule I drugs like magic mushrooms. An amendment allowing funding to treat opioid-related infectious diseases passed Thursday with bipartisan support, according to Ocasio-Cortez.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez @AOC · Jun 13, 2019

Sadly our drug research amendment failed today, but I'm undeterred.

I'm proud we were even able to bring a vote on psychedelic research to the House floor.

30% of veterans have considered suicide. These drugs show extreme promise in treating PTSD + more.

Let's keep at it. twitter.com/nickpwing/stat...

Nick Wing @nickpwing
The emerging research on these substances is fascinating and potentially revolutionary. There is simply no good argument for continuing to stifle the effort to learn more about how they could help people. twitter.com/AOC/status/113...

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez @AOC

The good news: one of my amendments DID pass w/ bipartisan support: funding treatment for opioid-related infectious diseases.

Our leg that did pass will help many Americans struck by the opioid crisis, and the one that didn't lays the groundwork for future breakthroughs. 🙌

16.4K · 10:19 AM · Jun 13, 2019

1,634 people are talking about this

Today In: Consumer

Critics: Michael Pollan, author of *How to Change Your Mind* (a retelling of his own experiences with magic mushrooms and LSD), is in favor of decriminalizing but [not legalizing](#) psilocybin. "Unlike decriminalization, legalization would encourage businesses to enter the market; they would not merely offer access but would actively promote the use of magic mushrooms—an important difference," wrote Pollan in a [Gen magazine op-ed](#).

PROMOTED

Follow me on [Twitter](#). Send me a [secure tip](#).



Lisette Voytko

I'm a New York-based journalist covering breaking news at Forbes. I hold a master's degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

Previous bylines: [G...](#) [Read More](#)

Print Site Feedback Tips Corrections Reprints & Permissions Terms Privacy
©2019 Forbes Media LLC. All Rights Reserved. AdChoices



18,732 views | Aug 28, 2019, 01:49pm

Puerto Rican Women On The