

## House Resolution 896

By: Representatives Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Clark of the 147<sup>th</sup>, Bonner of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Prince of the 127<sup>th</sup>, and Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Alternative Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder  
2 Treatment Resources for Veterans; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, major depressive disorder (MDD) is very common in veterans with  
4 post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); and

5 WHEREAS, the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program (EHVP) has been providing intensive  
6 outpatient treatment for PTSD veterans for six years, and has 14 psychologists who  
7 specialize in PTSD treatment for veterans; and

8 WHEREAS, the EHVP has experience in both veteran treatment and psychedelic treatments,  
9 and studies show substantial evidence that supports psilocybin-assisted psychotherapy for  
10 the treatment of depressive disorders; and

11 WHEREAS, current research on psilocybin trials excludes patients with a history of  
12 substance abuse, and research further indicates that psilocybin therapy can enhance  
13 sobriety-focused psychotherapy for addiction; and

14 WHEREAS, thus the EHVP has vast experience in both veteran treatment and psychedelic  
15 treatments, which is unparalleled by any other academic institution in the country.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

17 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
18 on Alternative Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment Resources for Veterans.

19 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members as  
20 follows:

21 (A) The chairperson of the House Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee;

22 (B) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
23 House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as chairperson of the  
24 committee; and

25 (C) Two members of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

26 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
27 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
28 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

29 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
30 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
31 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
32 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

33 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

34 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided  
35 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

36 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,  
37 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the  
38 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the

39 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they  
40 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

41 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state  
42 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that  
43 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia  
44 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state  
45 employees.

46 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received  
47 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are  
48 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
49 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the  
50 reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and  
51 for the reimbursement of the expenses of state employees shall come from funds  
52 appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

53 **(6) Report.**

54 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
55 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the  
56 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
57 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

58 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
59 proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)  
60 of this paragraph.

61 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
62 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
63 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with  
64 the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Any member of the committee may file a  
65 minority report that shall accompany the majority report.

66 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the  
67 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu  
68 thereof.

69 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2022.