

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 26-108—SB 191

Public Health Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PSYCHEDELIC-ASSISTED THERAPY
PILOT PROGRAM**

SUMMARY: This act expands eligibility for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) psychedelic-assisted therapy pilot program by allowing Connecticut residents to participate who (1) are at least age 18 and (2) meet clinical eligibility criteria set by the institutional review board of the medical school that administers it (currently Yale University). Previously, the pilot program was limited to Connecticut veterans, retired first responders, and direct health care workers. As under prior law, participants must receive MDMA- (“Molly” or “ecstasy”) or psilocybin-assisted therapy as part of a research program approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The act also eliminates a requirement that DMHAS end the pilot program if the federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) approves MDMA and psilocybin for medical use (the DEA has not yet done so).

MDMA is a synthetic psychoactive drug, and psilocybin occurs naturally in some mushrooms. Both act as serotonin receptor agonists, and MDMA also acts as a reuptake inhibitor of serotonin and dopamine.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026