

FLORIDA ADVOCACY & STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Operation:
INTEGRATION

A Unified Legislative Framework for the Safe, Ethical, and Accountable Regulation of Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy Facilitation in Florida.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Advocacy Coalition
Legislators & Stakeholders

PREPARED BY

Rebirth USA/FL For Ibogaine
Policy Development Team

BRIEFING DATE

11 June 2026
Florida Legislative Session

DOCUMENT STATUS

SPONSOR-READY

Unified package combining model bill text, fiscal and implementation review, and legal issues analysis.



U.S. MARINE CORPS - VETERAN
ADVOCATE, FOUNDER

— ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Marisol Salgado Garcia

USMC, Ret (Maj - Mustang),

CEO: Sol y Mar Real Estate Holdings

CEO: BTMS Health

Lead: Florida for Ibogaine (Americans for Ibogaine, Ambassador)

Founder – Phoenix Rising Holistic Center

🛡️ **BACKGROUND**

▶ **USMC Aviation Logistics**— Global War on Terrorism Veteran, SPMAGTF-CR

▶ Jul 2003 - Aug 2023

▶ **National Physique Committee Competitor**

-Woman's Figure: 2018

-Bikini: 2023

▶ **Real Estate Investor**

-Short-term & long-term rental portfolio (TX)

▶ **Person in Long-Term Recovery** — Substance Misuse, MST & Co-Occurring Disorders

▶ **Suicide Attempt (2013, 2018) & Psychedelic experience (2019)**

🏆 **Advocacy, Credentials**

▶ **Ambassador - Americans for Ibogaine**

▶ **Lead: Florida for Ibogaine* Coalition**

▶ **B.A. Communications**



— ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Brian W. Sims

CRPS-V · NCMI · VSR · CPPS

Founder & National Director — Project: REBIRTH

The Nation's First Warrior Recovery Community Organization (WARRCO)

🛡️ BACKGROUND

- ▶ **U.S. Army Infantryman (11B)** — Global War on Terrorism Veteran
- ▶ Human & Geospatial Intelligence Specialist
- ▶ **FEMA-Certified Emergency Manager** — 12+ federal level deployments (Hurricane Harvey → COVID-19)
- ▶ Person in Long-Term Recovery — Substance Misuse, MST & Co-Occurring Disorders
- ▶ Suicide Attempt (2015) & Homelessness Survivor

🎓 CREDENTIALS & EDUCATION

- ▶ Certified Recovery Peer Specialist – Veteran (FL Certification Board)
- ▶ Veteran Supported Recovery Professional (NY State)
- ▶ NAADAC Certified Event Interventionist
- ▶ Certified Psilocybin Peer Supporter
- ▶ **M.S. Candidate, Mental Health Counseling** — Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School

IMPACT TO DATE

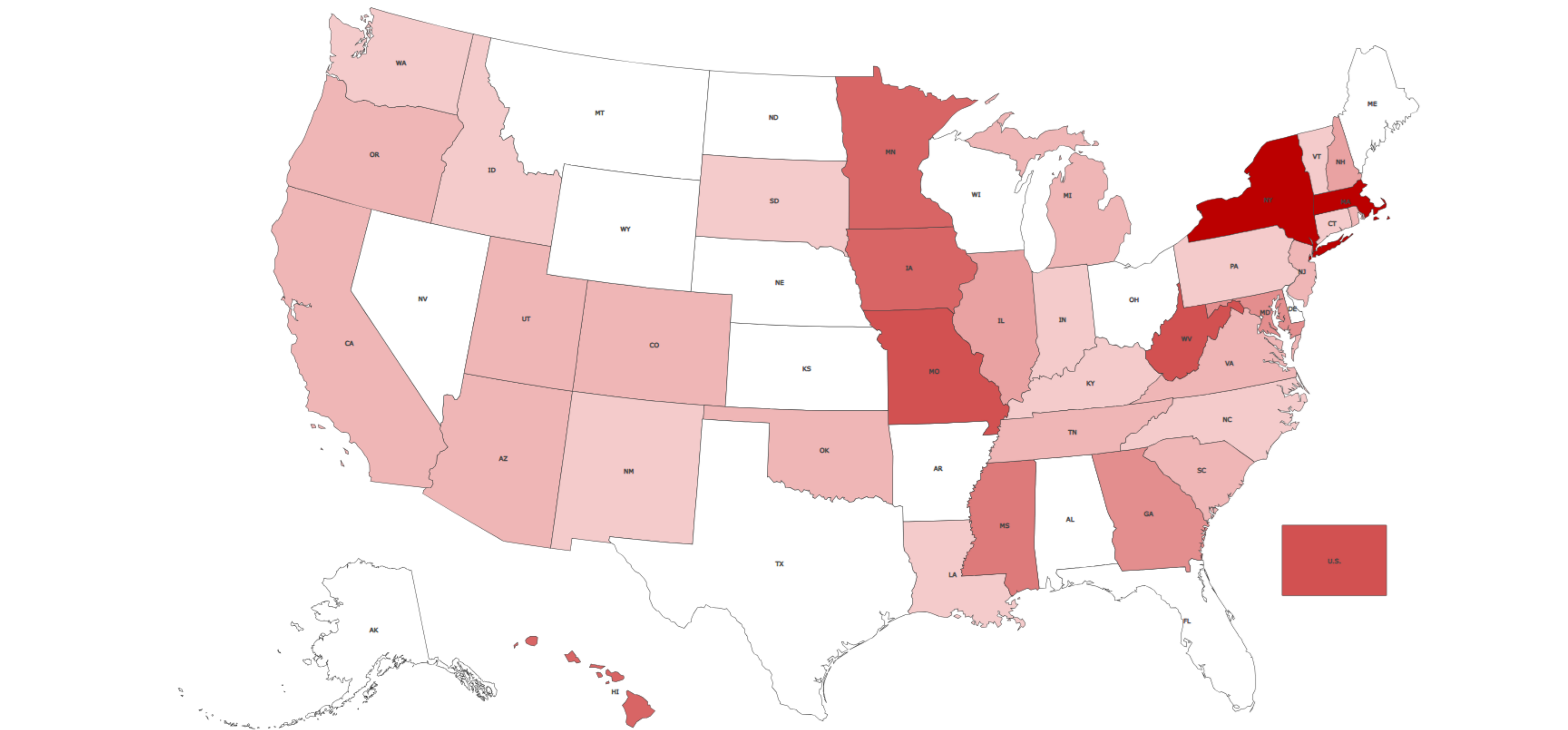
30,000+
VOLUNTEERS TRAINED

24 PROGRAMS
ACROSS 8 STATES

SAMHSA
FEDERALLY FUNDED

Psychedelic Bill Tracker

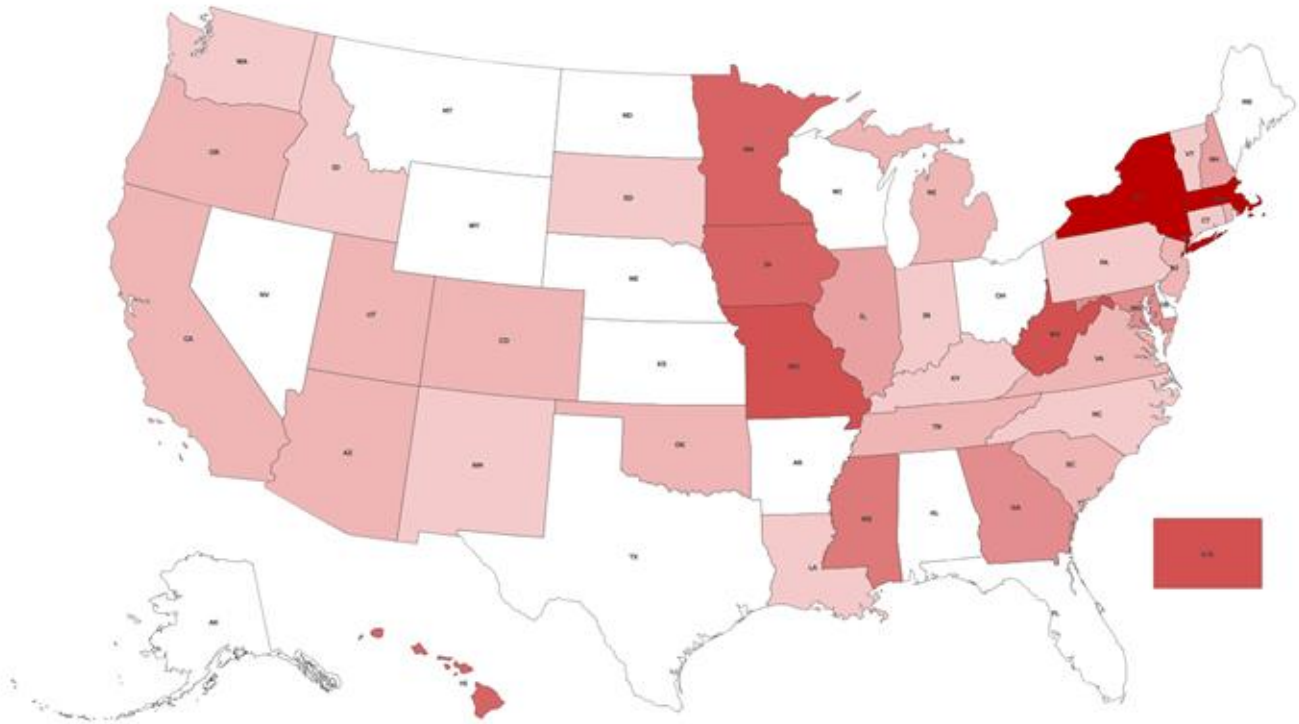
U.S. state legislative activity overview · 28+ bills tracked across 10 states



Psychedelic Bill Tracker

State-by-State Summary • 2026

U.S. state legislative activity overview • 28+ bills tracked across 10 states



2026 At a Glance

Enacted 7 Signed into law in 2026	In Committee / Crossed Over 5 Still moving through statehouses	Dead 16+ Failed, vetoed, or stalled	Total Tracked 28+ Bills across 10 states in 2026
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Key Themes

- Veterans & first responders dominate target populations
 - Trigger laws gaining traction (CO, GA, WV enacted)
 - Ibogaine research momentum continues (CO)
- Pilot programs widely proposed but frequently stall
 - Ketamine regulation emerging as a new front
 - Religious-use protections appearing alongside bans

Proactive guardrails for Florida.

THE CONTEXT

Florida faces a growing mental health and trauma crisis, especially among veterans and first responders. As public interest in psychedelic-assisted therapies (PAT) rises, **unregulated, underground activity is expanding** without oversight, creating extreme risks of fraud, ethical violations, and patient harm.

THE RECOMMENDATION

Enact the **Operation: INTEGRATION Act**—a legally disciplined, **two-lane oversight structure** establishing safety standards, Level 2 background screening, and strict alignment with Florida's existing behavioral health, emergency, and anti-brokering statutes before the market expands.

CORE STRUCTURE

Dual-Lane

Lane 1: DOH Clinical Endorsement ·
Lane 2: FCB Non-Clinical Certification

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Level 2

Mandatory Section 435.04 screening
for all facilitators & peers

IMPLEMENTATION

36 mo

Phased rollout beginning with Advisory
Council rulemaking & study

POLITICAL POSTURE

Public Safety & Regulation

Not drug legalization; regulates
programs and facilitator conduct.

Unregulated activity creates severe public risks.

01

High Burden of Severe Mental Health Conditions

Florida already manages a high burden of trauma-related disorders, PTSD, and substance use disorders. Over 6,000 veteran suicides occur nationally each year, and traditional treatments have left thousands of first responders and veterans seeking alternative care models.

02

Unregulated & Unmonitored Underground Proliferation

Without a state regulatory framework, underground "sitters", "guides", and uncredentialed retreat centers operate in a complete legal vacuum. There are no mandatory background screenings, ethical standards, adverse-event logging, or emergency transfer plans.

03

The Imperative to Regulate Before the Market Expands

Florida does not need to choose between broad deregulation and complete prohibition. The true choice is whether the State builds a guardrail-first regulatory structure to safely govern facilitators, programs, and safety parameters as lawful pathways emerge.

The Dual-Lane Oversight Model at a Glance

LANE 1 • CLINICAL FACILITATOR LANE

Licensed Healthcare Professionals under the Florida Department of Health (DOH)

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Licensed clinicians operating within existing scope: LMHCs, LCSWs, LMFTs, licensed psychologists, physicians, and advanced practice registered nurses.

CORE ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY

Clinical screening for severe psychiatric contraindications, medical risk assessments, treatment planning, specialized therapeutic facilitation, and emergency escalation management.

PRIMARY LIMITATION

Does not expand underlying scope of professional practice or independently authorize controlled-substance activity outside federal/state regulatory approvals.

LANE 2 • NON-CLINICAL & PEER LANE

Certified Guides & Recovery Peers under the Florida Certification Board (FCB)

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Peer supporters, recovery peers, non-clinical guides, psychedelic sitters, and other support personnel aligned with peer specialist definitions.

CORE ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY

Preparation support, continuous safety monitoring/observation during sessions, supportive presence, recovery-oriented integration, and documented escalation to licensed staff.

PRIMARY LIMITATION

Strictly prohibited from independent clinical work. Cannot diagnose mental/physical conditions, perform psychotherapy, prescribe, or administer high-risk clinical management.

Statutory guardrails fully aligned with current Florida law.

01 Mandatory Level 2 Background Screening

All applicants for clinical endorsement or non-clinical certification must undergo fingerprint-based Level 2 background screening under Section 435.04. Includes statewide and national criminal history checks and registry sweeps to protect highly vulnerable participants.

FLORIDA STATUTORY BASIS • s. 435.04 & s. 456.0135

02 Referral Protection & Anti-Deceptive Marketing

Explicit compliance with the Florida Patient Brokering Act (s. 817.505). Strict bans on finder fees, split-fee kickbacks, or patient brokering in PAT referrals. Advertising restrictions prevent false clinical claims or credential misrepresentations in public-facing materials.

FLORIDA STATUTORY BASIS • s. 817.505 & Ch. 397

03 Emergency Integration & Baker Act Protocols

Every facilitation site must maintain written emergency transport plans. Involuntary examinations or acute psychiatric emergencies occurring during or after administration sessions are seamlessly integrated with Florida's existing Baker Act (Chapter 394) framework.

FLORIDA STATUTORY BASIS • Ch. 394 & Ch. 397

04 Scope of Practice & Clinical Integrity Protection

Protects existing professional board boundaries. Non-clinical personnel cannot diagnose, treat, prescribe, or perform psychotherapy. Traditional DOH practice acts (Chapter 491, 490, 458, 464) remain fully authoritative over who may provide clinical behavioral healthcare.

FLORIDA STATUTORY BASIS • Ch. 491 & Ch. 456

A structured roadmap to de-risk implementation.

PHASE 1 • MONTHS 0 TO 12

Enactment, Advisory Council, and Rule Drafting

Establishment of the Advisory Council. Draft and publish rules for clinical endorsements and non-clinical certifications. Construct initial application screening databases.

PHASE 2 • MONTHS 12 TO 18

Curriculum Approvals & Competency Launch

Approve training curricula and clinical practicum sites. Florida Certification Board deploys non-clinical standards and credential tracking. Launch compliance webinars for providers.

PHASE 3 • MONTHS 18 TO 36

Pilot Program Launch & Empirical Review

Begin accepting applications, issue endorsements, run targeted pilot programs (focusing on veterans/first responders), collect de-identified safety data, and submit reports to the Legislature.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A high-standard workforce under clear regulatory boundaries

By implementing a 36-month phased approach, the state avoids overnight market saturation and allows agencies to adjust parameters based on empirical safety outcomes. Expected result: a robust, licensed clinical and peer workforce under clear regulatory boundaries, eliminating underground malpractice.

Primary documentation & statutory authorities.

PRIMARY DOCUMENTS COPIED IN PACKAGE

Unified Legislative Package

Combines model bill, section analysis, fiscal note, and redline drafts.

Executive Summary for Florida Legislators

Handout package summarizing the dual-lane design for policymaker pre-reads.

One-Page Leave-Behind

High-level visual summary and bottom line for legislative meetings.

Sponsor Memo & Policy Research Report

Political feasibility, committee analysis, and comprehensive policy rationale.

FLORIDA STATUTORY PRECEDENTS & CODES

Chapter 397, Florida Statutes

The logical home for program licensing, quality assurance, and provider regulation.

Chapter 491, Florida Statutes

Governs clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental health counseling.

Section 397.417, Florida Statutes

Peer specialist definitions and background exemption screening protocols.

Section 817.505, Florida Statutes

Patient Brokering Act preventing referral commissions and fraudulent marketing.

Operation: INTEGRATION is grounded in empirical research and existing legislative architecture. For drafting inquiries or stakeholder reviews, contact the Rebirth USA Policy Team.

Action & Ask for the Coalition and Sponsors

Core actions needed from coalition partners and potential legislative sponsors to launch the safe, ethical framework in Florida.

00 Information Sessions & [Change.Org](#) Petition

01 Sponsorship & Introduction of the "Operation: INTEGRATION Act"

Introduce or co-sponsor the unified legislative package in the House or Senate.

OWNER Legislative Bill Sponsor **DEADLINE** Pre-filing cutoff COB

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SPONSOR

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AMEND / STUDY

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DISCUSS

02 Secure Targeted Pilot Appropriations (Veterans & First Responders)

Advocate for state-level funding of Phase 3 pilots to collect local safety data.

OWNER Appropriations Committee Members **DEADLINE** Budget Amendment Hearing

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APPROVE

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DISAPPROVE

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DISCUSS

03 Formalize Advocacy Coalition Endorsement & Outreach

Advocacy organizations formally sign onto the coalition to support the public-safety framework.

OWNER Advocacy Leaders & Orgs **DEADLINE** Coalition launch next Thursday

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ENDORSE

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WITHHOLD

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DISCUSS

CHANGE.ORG PETITION LINK

<http://bit.ly/4b8BkzA>



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