Denver Becomes First City In U.S. To Decriminalize Psychedelic Mushrooms

Denver has approved the grassroots ordinance 301 to decriminalize psilocybin mushrooms (aka psychedelic mushrooms).

It looked like the initiative would be a failed effort but it narrowly passed. It with 50.56% voting in favor of decriminalization.

Psilocybin mushrooms won't be legal in Denver, but once the ordinance goes into effect the city will not be criminally prosecuting or arresting adults for possession, as long as they are 21 or more years old. The ballot also allows for growing the mushrooms for personal use. The initiative is expected to take effect sometime next year.

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> *What happened in Denver may be the start of a much larger movement, which seeks safe access to psilocybin for its purported medicinal value. Supporters point to research, suggesting psilocybin is not addictive and causes few ER visits compared to other illegal drugs. Ongoing medical research shows it could be a groundbreaking medicine for treatment-resistant depression and to help curb nicotine addiction.*
>
> *NPR*

Republican congressman Jeff Shipley, in Iowa, has proposed to legalize the medicinal use of psilocybin mushrooms, MDMA, and ibogaine. Oregon and California also have campaigns legalize psilocybin mushrooms for the 2020 elections.

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Psilocybin mushrooms classified under federal law as a Schedule 1 drug. NPR reports that DEA officials in Denver say they will still prosecute for psilocybin possession and trafficking.