

HB 283: Bill to Ban Kratom

Goal: This bill will set regulations on kratom, including age restrictions, to ensure people are safely using the drug. This bill will work to prevent tragedy, dependency, loss of life, and misery and keep it out of the hands of children.

Issue: People often take the drug to increase energy, sociability, and its most common use, to wean themselves off of other drugs. However, kratom has very serious side effects, including hallucinations, liver damage, seizures, and death, which can be further complicated by the potential lacing other drugs. Kratom contains the same amount of alkaloids as opium and hallucinogenic drugs and affects the same receptors in the brain as morphine.

What the bill will do:

1. The bill will prohibit a person from purchasing, distributing, or selling kratom to an individual under the age of 21.
2. A person who violates this law is subject to civil penalty not exceeding
 - \$300 for first violation
 - \$1,000 for second violation
 - \$3,000 for each subsequent violation
3. Begins the conversation towards further regulation to ensure that all ingredients in the drug are listed.