

DANIEL WURZ

February 4, 2020

House Judiciary Committee
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street, Room 100
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0283 – Kratom Ban Testomnial

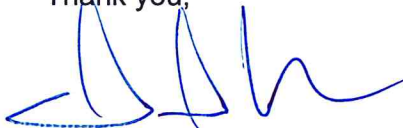
Dear Esteemed Persons of the House Judiciary Committee:

First and foremost, I truly appreciate the committee for allowing myself and others to provide our testimonies. I do not take this testimony lightly as I do very much value my privacy. I have taken Kratom nearly each morning for the last 9 years. What led me to kratom was a natural resource for anxiety. In 2008, in the midst of the Financial Crises in Southern California, I witnessed the violent passing of my father. After this event I was left with an unbridled anxiety that I had no idea how to control or manage. I tried kratom at the recommendation of a trusted friend. After a couple of weeks of experimentation, I found what worked best for me.

The only way I could describe it to someone, who is unfamiliar with kratom, is that it made me feel “myself” again. The agonizing tightness in my chest was gone. I felt “normal”, whatever the truly means. In the nearly 10 years since I’ve began using kratom as a daily supplement, I graduated from Cal State San Bernardino in 2011 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Business. I received my MBA from Forbes School of Business in San Diego, CA. I became a father to two beautiful little girls. In the last 5 years, I’ve received 4 promotions, I’ve been trusted managing projects in value of over \$300M for the Department of Defense (which was successful). I am a “CHAMP” mentor to high school students in my impoverished hometown of San Bernardino, CA. Just last month I received a distinguished Core-Value award from my employer for my leadership.

I understand the reluctance many have with respect to kratom. But I also ask you to recognize the benefits it has yielded for myself and many others. I truly feel an outright ban on kratom is counterproductive. I do agree with most of you that there needs to be more scientific research and proper regulation, as described in the Kratom Consumer Protection Act. Once again, thank you for allowing myself and other to provide our testimonies.

Thank you,



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