

THE ARIZONA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

NO. 10-18
DATE: 4/20/18

INTRODUCED BY: Stephen P. Herman, MD and Arizona Psychiatric Society
SUBJECT: Prohibition on the Herbal Supplement Kratom
ASSIGNED TO: Reference Committee on Reports and Resolutions

1 Whereas, Kratom is an herbal supplement derived from the Southeast Asian tree *Mitragyna speciosae*; and
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3 Whereas, Kratom is distributed in leaf, powder; and capsule form; and may be either smoked, used as a tea,
4 or mixed as a paste and added to food; and
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6 Whereas, Kratom is readily available to the public, with no age restriction, in Arizona, in stores and even in
7 vending machines; and
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9 Whereas, Kratom has been banned in eight states and several municipalities; and
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11 Whereas, Kratom is a partial mu opioid receptor agonist and competitive kappa and delta opioid receptor
12 antagonist, which has stimulant effects at low doses and narcotic/sedative effects at high doses; and
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14 Whereas, people may take Kratom to help with withdrawal from heroin or other drugs, not knowing that
15 Kratom can be just as addictive as opiates; and
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17 Whereas, many Americans are suffering from Kratom addiction and relapse; and
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19 Whereas, the FDA has recorded at least 44 deaths from the use of Kratom; and
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21 Whereas, the FDA recently issued a statement expressing concern about public use of Kratom; and
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23 Whereas, despite the FDA's call for scientific papers on purported beneficial effects of Kratom, none have
24 been submitted; and
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26 Whereas, pure Kratom will not show up on standard drug tests, including the NIDA5 and the extended 10-
27 panel urine test, thus allowing opiate use to go undetected; and
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29 Whereas, Kratom shipments from two suppliers have been found to be contaminated by salmonella, which
30 can result in serious illness; therefore, be it
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32 **RESOLVED**, that ArMA supports the conduct of ethically and scientifically sound research to evaluate
33 beneficial or harmful effects of Kratom and its pharmacologically active derivatives; and be it further
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35 **RESOLVED**, that ArMA supports prohibition of the sale or distribution of Kratom or its derivatives in Arizona
36 until it is deemed safe by the FDA.
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1 ArReferences:
2 AMA Council on Science and Public Health statement on Kratom, as one of several emerging drugs of abuse:
3 <https://www.ama-assn.org/sites/default/files/media-browser/public/hod/a17-csaph-reports.pdf>
4
5 FDA Statement by FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D.
6 <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm595622.htm>
7
8 FDA recall of a Kratom product contaminated with Salmonella: <https://www.menshealth.com/trending-news/a19681990/kratom-recall-fda/>
9
10
11 Fiscal Impact: minimal