

**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 speciosa*; and
- 2
- 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
- 5
- 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
- 13
- 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
- 16
- 17 Whereas, many Americans are suffering from Kratom addiction and relapse; and
- 18
- 19 Whereas, the FDA has recorded at least 44 deaths from the use of Kratom; and
- 20
- 21 Whereas, the FDA recently issued a statement expressing concern about public use of Kratom; and
- 22
- 23 Whereas, despite the FDA's call for scientific papers on purported beneficial effects of Kratom, none have
- 24 been submitted; and
- 25
- 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
- 28
- 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
- 31
- 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
- 34
- 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-](https://www.menshealth.com/trending-news/a19681990/kratom-recall-fda/)
- 9 [news/a19681990/kratom-recall-fda/](https://www.menshealth.com/trending-news/a19681990/kratom-recall-fda/)
- 10
- 11 Fiscal Impact: minimal