

HB 2061 -- SALE OF KRATOM PRODUCTS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 4.

This bill establishes the "Kratom Consumer Protection Act", which requires dealers who prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale a food that is represented to be a kratom product to disclose on the product label the basis on which this representation is made. A dealer is prohibited from preparing, distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a kratom product that does not conform to these labeling requirements.

A dealer may not prepare, distribute, sell or expose for sale a kratom product that is adulterated or contaminated with a dangerous non-kratom substance, contains a level of 7-hydroxymitragynine in the alkaloid fraction that is greater than 2% composition of the product, containing any synthetic alkaloids, or does not include on its package or label the amount of mitragynine, 7-hydroxymitragynine, or other synthetically derived compounds of the plant *Mitragyna speciosa*.

A dealer may not distribute, sell or expose for sale a kratom product to anyone under 18 years of age. The bill specifies penalties for a violation of the labeling requirements and allows for a person who is aggrieved by a violation of the labeling requirements to bring a cause of action for damages resulting from the violation.

This bill is similar to HB 1115 (2019).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that people's lives have been saved by the consumption of Kratom, which comes from a tree in southeast Asia. Kratom is an unregulated natural product that helps with pain and other medical reasons. Supporters also stated that there is no risk of addiction to Kratom. This bill will ban the sale of synthetic Kratom with the label requirement. Proponents testified that a large consumption of Kratom could be harmful, especially if it is mixed with another product. This bill ensures that the consumption of Kratom is at a safe level.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Christofanelli; Curtis S. Bramble; Dafna Revah, CBD Kratom; David Palatnik, CBD Kratom.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.