

Communication from Public

Name: Melissa B

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:15 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I'm begging you to please NOT ban 7oh extracts. I have a lot of stomach issues that includes excruciating stomach pain. After trying a multitude of medications, supplements and diets I found kratom. It helps a moderate amount. More than anything I've taken that was recommended by my physician which was a win for me but I still had some pain, just less. Went from a 9 to a 5 on pain scale. Over time the abundance of ingesting so much plant matter would actually backfire on me which was an unfortunate side effect I experienced from kratom. Because of that I switched to OPMS Black shots to avoid all of the plant matter. They helped my stomach a bit more than kratom (4/10 on pain scale as opposed to my regular 9/10 pain). Unfortunately they were expensive and I consumed 2 a day which were 20 each so \$40 per day. I was spending over \$1000 a month on OPMS black kratom extract shots just to get pain relief to function in life. Fast forward when I heard about 7oh extracts I gave them a try. A half of a 14mg tablet provided me an incredible amount of relieve from my usual debilitating stomach pain. I went from a 9/10 on the pain scale down to a 2/10. I've never had that relief in the 20+ years I've had these stomach issues. I felt no side effects other than extreme relief. They didn't make me feel weird and have bad side effects like I've experienced from opiod pain medications from my doctor. I've been using them for nearly a year and it only takes 1 tablet a day for me to live without chronic horrible stomach pain. And each tablet is only \$4 so it's less than \$120 a month to get that relief. In comparison I was spending over \$1000 a month on opms black kratom extract shots for less pain relief. I'm well aware 7oh tablets can be habit forming since it was printed on the packaging and in my opinion the benefits far outweigh the negatives. Please don't ban this safe alkaloid extract that is helping millions of people across the country including myself. Best Regards, Melissa B.

Communication from Public

Name: Jared Beam

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:20 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose any support for AB 1088 in its current form. I fully support protecting consumers through fair, science-based regulation, but this bill relies on misinformation and double standards that unfairly target naturally derived 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), a natural alkaloid found in kratom. The proposed 2% 7-OH limit has no scientific or toxicological justification and would unfairly restrict concentrated 7-OH products while leaving similar mitragynine and alkaloid extracts completely untouched, even though they are produced through nearly identical extraction and oxidation processes. Labeling 7-OH as “synthetic” or “semi-synthetic” is inaccurate and misleading. Mitragynine extracts are made the same way yet face no such limits or classifications. This inconsistency exposes how misinformation and influence from certain industry groups—largely funded and backed by major kratom and mitragynine extract vendors—are driving policy, not science or genuine safety concerns. Regulation should focus on accurate testing, clear labeling, and enforcement against vendors who mislabel or adulterate products—not arbitrary percentage caps that create unfair market advantages instead of protecting the public. Supporting AB 1088 in its current form would harm responsible consumers and small businesses, protect large corporate interests, and restrict access to natural harm reduction alternatives. Please reject support for AB 1088 unless it is amended to reflect consistent, science-based, and fair safety standards for all natural kratom alkaloids.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Linkenhoker

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:22 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Eric Linkenhoker and I'm a 50 year old disabled veteran. I use 7oh to help battle constant pain and anxiety from PTSD. It has been a blessing in my life and because of the relief it gives me it has been a blessing in my family's life. For the first time in years I am able to do household chores and be involved in family activities. 7oh does not make you high like opiates due to the fact that it is a partial antagonist on the body's opiate receptors. Please take the time to study the factual science about it. You are either being misinformed or you are purposely misrepresenting the information about this compound. We the people are not fooled as to which. There is a large and growing coalition of us that are fighting back to keep our rights from being unceremoniously stripped away from us. Now is the time for this board to do what is right and not what the side with the most money wants it to do. If not I feel that a change is coming forthwith. Now is the time to stop being puppets for big pharma who is trying to strike down it's competition. We are talking about a single alkaloid from a simple leaf that has been used in Asia for generations with zero ill effects. 7oh is cheap and effective if used responsibly but like anything, alcohol and tobacco comes to mind here, it has the potential to be abused by a small percentage of people that are going to abuse anything that they can. Some people are just like that and you can't ban everything to keep them in check. The overwhelming majority of 7oh users do so responsibly and are contributing members of society. You are being sold a bed of lies, please don't lie down in it.

Communication from Public

Name: John Cleveland
Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:48 AM
Council File No: 25-0002-S82
Comments for Public Posting: Please find attached a public comment from Holistic Alternative Recovery Trust. Thank you for your consideration.



To: Los Angeles City Council

From: Holistic Alternative Recovery Trust

Re: Agenda Item 25-0002-S82

Date: October 29, 2025

On behalf of Holistic Alternative Recovery Trust (HART), I am writing to urge the Los Angeles City Council to reject the proposed resolution (Agenda Item 25-0002-S82) supporting a ban on 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) products.

We at HART are tremendously concerned about proposals to ban 7-OH, as we feel that the basis for doing so is fundamentally flawed, resulting from widespread alarmism with no grounding in either science or fact.

More than [one million Americans](#) have consumed 7-OH. Over one billion servings have been sold. And yet, the FDA's own [data](#) show only around 40 adverse events stemming from 7-OH consumption – hundreds fewer than soap – with zero confirmed deaths from 7-OH ingested in isolation. Conversely, more traditional kratom leaf products are associated with more than 700 deaths – many of them due to polydrug combinations. Neither should be banned.

7-OH is a G protein-based partial agonist at the mu-opioid receptor. Although 7-OH binds with high affinity, it only partially activates the receptor – exhibiting low intrinsic efficacy similar to buprenorphine ([Kruegel](#), 2016; [Obeng](#), 2021; [Todd](#), 2020; [Varadi](#), 2016; & [WHO](#), 2021). Claims that 7-OH is more potent than morphine conflate high potency with intrinsic efficacy. While 7-OH demonstrates higher potency in some assays, its partial agonism results in a ceiling effect on opioid-like outcomes and significantly reduces β -arrestin-2 recruitment – a signaling pathway associated with respiratory depression and other adverse effects of conventional opioids ([Samways](#), 2024; [Todd](#), 2020).

Accordingly, [leading researchers](#) from Johns Hopkins, Harvard and UCLA stress that 7-OH should not be considered a public health crisis and that available data show no evidence of overdose deaths, respiratory depression, or widespread dependence. There is no oral lethal dose (LD50) found in mice, whereas opioids – and even substances like Tylenol – do have a lethal dose ([Smith](#), 2019).

In fact, the number of opioid overdoses [went down](#) the first year that 7-OH was commercially available on the market as a single-alkaloid product. This may in part be due to the fact that many opioid users [employ 7-OH](#) to combat opioid use disorder and associated withdrawal symptoms. If 7-OH is banned, those consumers might simply turn back to more potent, dangerous and unregulated options.

It's worth noting that banning 7-OH while continuing to allow kratom sales is illogical. While the 7-OH alkaloid is present in the raw kratom plant in small amounts, kratom's primary compound – mitragynine – is actually processed into 7-OH after ingestion at a rate of about 24%. In other words, it's what your liver – your body's most vital filter – converts kratom into after you consume it. Every kratom consumer has 7-OH in their system.



In an ideal scenario, both kratom and 7-OH would be appropriately regulated within a carefully considered state framework and remain accessible for the hundreds of thousands of California consumers who rely on them.

The 7-OH industry is [vigorously advocating](#) for such regulations, including: dosage limits, age restrictions for purchase, age-gating in stores, required compliance with Current Good Manufacturing Practices, third-party testing, labeling requirements, and truth in marketing.

Such requirements would constitute an evidence-driven path forward, focused on health – not fear or profit.

We thereby request that you take additional time to study this issue before endorsing an outright state ban that would harm responsible consumers and negatively impact public health.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John Cleveland
Coalitions Director
Holistic Alternative Recovery Trust

Communication from Public

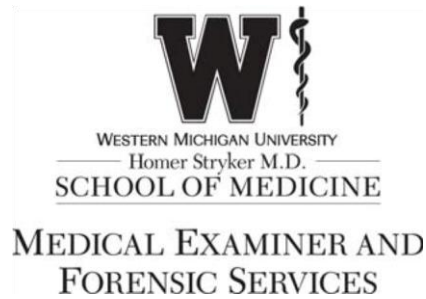
Name: SUSAN EPPARD

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:55 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I support the ban on all kratom. My son Matthew died from whole leaf Kratom powder, the least potent form of kratom available in the United States. His autopsy and toxicology results showed he had no other drugs nor alcohol in his system and had no underlying health conditions when he died. My son died from Mitragynine, an alkaloid in Kratom, he did NOT die from 7oh as He died on November 10, 2021, 2 years before 7oh hit the market in 2023. Kratom users are still dying from Kratom in states where the KCPA ha been enacted. Partly because of lack of oversight & mainly because Kratom is toxic to the human body. Camcavitt@house.mi.gov (emailed) sent tox 231- Rep bolin Dear Representative Cam Cavvit, I don't support HB 4969 as it gives legitimacy to the highly addictive & sometimes deadly drug Kratom. I support a full ban. My 22 year old son Matthew Joseph Eller died from KRATOM POWDER (the least potent form of Kratom available in the United States). Kratom caused him to have a seizure, go into cardiac arrest and die. His toxicology showed he died from the "TOXIC effects of Mitragynine" an alkaloid found only in Kratom. He had no prescription drugs, no street drugs nor alcohol in his system when he died, and his autopsy showed he had no underlying health conditions. Matthew did NOT die from 7-Oh/7-hydroxymitrgynine. The billion dollar Kratom industry is misleading lawmakers by falsely claiming that concentrated (7-OH) or 7-hydroxymitragynine is the only problem with Kratom, and they deceptively neglect to mention that people have been dying from Kratom powder for years prior 7-Oh hit the market in late 2023. Matthew thought Kratom was a great herb for energy, he had no idea how addictive it was until it was too late nor did he believe it could kill him. I'm a member of the Facebook Group "Kr8tom Danger Awareness" created by a mom who lost her son/only child to Kratom, and hundreds of our members have lost loved ones to kratom. Kratom is being advertised as a cureall, if it does things people say like cure or mitigate alcohol or opioid addiction, and relieve pain that can only be alleviated by opioids; that by itself indicates it should be prescribed by a doctor, not a gas station attendant with unlimited supply to the consumer. Testimonies from over 53k kratom users on Reddit's "Quittingkratom" show its withdrawals are horrible

with many comparing them to Heroin and other opioids. Thousand if not millions are now addicted to it, users are having liver failure, kidney failure, psychosis, depression, anxiety, seizures, cardiac arrest and some are dying from it. You have likely received hundreds if not thousands of emails and phone calls from people who say it helps them, but how many of those are from kratom dealers or just the same people sending multiple emails? The Kratom Consumer Protection Act was devised by the American Kratom Association/AKA to keep Kratom legal and give it legitimacy by very lightly regulating it, and fighting back on any meaningful regulation. The AKA has 40 plus kratom dealers listed on their website, and at least 6 of them have been involved in kratom wrongful death lawsuits including the AKA. Some of their disclaimers are horrific, but the worst are not listed on their packaging which puts American lives in danger. Please read the horrific disclaimers from the AKA's GMP Qualified Kratom dealers. They don't list all the dangers on packaging, but hide them deep in their websites. Happy Hippo Disclaimers: "Kratom use may be associated with one or more of the following adverse reactions: nervousness, agitation, confusion, aggression, hallucinations, delusions, tremors, sleeplessness, drowsiness, lethargy, sedation, skin hyperpigmentation, loss of libido, constipation, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, liver toxicity, tachycardia, hypertension, respiratory depression, respiratory arrest, cardiac arrest, renal failure, seizures, coma, and death." Sincerely, Susan Eppard (Matthew's Mom) My son's toxicology and autopsy report is attached.



Decedent: **Matthew J. Eller**

Case: **W21-1383**

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 22 years

Date of Birth: 03/08/1999
Date Pronounced Dead: 11/10/2021
Time Pronounced Dead: 2000 hours
Date of Exam: 11/11/2021
Time of Exam: 0730 hours
County: Muskegon
Pathologist: Joseph Prahlow, M.D.
Autopsy Procedure: Complete
Identification: Identification Tags
Persons in Attendance: Jenna Jones, Assistant
Matt Bombich, Photographer
Ben Root, Medical Student
Josh McGarry, Medical Student
Sung Jik Cha, Medical Student

Postmortem Examination Report

Cause of Death:

TOXIC EFFECTS OF MITRAGYNINE

Manner of Death:

ACCIDENT



Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine
Department of Pathology
300 Portage Street • Kalamazoo, MI • 49007
269.337.6173
med.wmich.edu

CIRCUMSTANCES:

History that the decedent stood up after playing a game of cards and then collapsed and demonstrated seizure-like activity. All resuscitative efforts failed. He had a history of kratom use.

RECEIPT OF REMAINS:

The body is received in the facility on 11/11/2021 at 0710 hours. The body is received in a secured body bag with an identification tag bearing the decedent's name and a sealing device marked with the number "2335758."

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The body is identified by tags on the body bag and the right ankle. Photographs and x-rays are taken. The body is received wearing a pair of athletic shorts, a pair of boxer briefs, and a pair of socks. There is no jewelry.

The body is that of a well-developed, well-nourished, white male, whose appearance is compatible with the stated age of 22-years. His body is 73-inches long and weighs 138-pounds. The body is cold, rigor is fully developed, and the posterior lividity is partially fixed. The scalp hair is up to approximately 5-inches in length, brown, and wavy. There is emesis within the hair. The irides are hazel, and there are no petechiae of the bulbar or palpebral surfaces of the conjunctivae. There is no beard or moustache. The ears, nose, and lips are unremarkable except that the earlobes are pierced. The teeth are natural and in good condition. The neck is unremarkable. The chest is symmetrical. The abdomen is flat and unremarkable. The external genitalia, anus, and perineum are unremarkable. The penis is circumcised, and the testicles are descended into the scrotum. The extremities are well developed, symmetrical, and unremarkable. The back is unremarkable. The skin is unremarkable.

IDENTIFYING MARKS AND SCARS:

There is a tattoo of the name "Hannah" on the right triceps region.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

- Oral laryngeal mask airway
- Multiple EKG pads
- Defibrillator pads
- Intravenous line, left antecubital fossa
- Bandage, left third finger

EVIDENCE OF INJURY:

There is a less than 1/8-inch superficial incised wound of the tip of the left third finger. There is a 3/16-inch in greatest dimension linear abrasion of the proximal knuckle of the left second finger. There is an approximately 1/4-inch in greatest dimension vertical linear laceration of the lower lip. There is a less than 1/8-inch crusted excoriation of the right shin. There is a less than 1-inch in greatest dimension subtle, left frontal subscalpular hemorrhage, but no other head trauma.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:**BODY ORGAN WEIGHTS:**

Brain	1480 grams	Heart	340 grams
Right Lung	600 grams	Left Lung	500 grams
Liver	1840 grams	Spleen	230 grams
Right Kidney	150 grams	Left Kidney	170 grams

BODY CAVITIES:

The thoracic and abdominal organs are in their normal anatomic positions. The body cavities contain no adhesions or abnormal collections of fluid.

HEAD AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

The scalp, subscalpular area, and skull are unremarkable except for the subtle left frontal subscalpular hemorrhage. The dura and dural sinuses are unremarkable. There are no epidural, subdural, or subarachnoid hemorrhages. The leptomeninges are thin and delicate. The cerebral hemispheres are symmetrical with an unremarkable gyral pattern; however, there is diffuse swelling. The cranial nerves and blood vessels are unremarkable. The brain is retained for Lieber neuropathological examination. The spinal cord is not examined. The pituitary gland is unremarkable.

LIEBER EXAM (from report):

The dura mater included with the specimen includes a portion of right and left calvarial dura with the superior sagittal sinus, and the falx cerebri, and dura including and adjacent to the torcula. The dura and dural sinuses are unremarkable, with no sinus thromboses, neomembranes, or mass lesions. The cerebral and cerebellar hemispheres are symmetrical with no evidence of softening or atrophy. The cortical sulci are somewhat effaced from cerebral swelling. The leptomeninges are smooth and transparent. There is no evidence of transtentorial, subfalcine, central diencephalic, or external herniation. The cerebellar tonsils are prominent, consistent with diffuse brain swelling. The blood vessels of the Circle of Willis show no atherosclerosis with no aneurysms, vascular anomalies, or malformations. The cranial nerves are present and unremarkable. Serial coronal sections of the cerebral hemispheres demonstrate well demarcated gray and white matter structures. The cortical ribbon is of normal thickness and the centrum semiovale is intact throughout, with no focal lesions. The medial temporal lobe structures including the hippocampus are bilaterally symmetric and effaced somewhat from brain swelling. There is no significant atrophy or evidence of mesial temporal sclerosis. The deep gray matter structures are anatomically intact without focal lesions. The ventricles are symmetrical with no evidence of hydrocephalus. Serial axial sections of the brainstem reveal pigmentation of the substantia nigra and locus ceruleus appropriate for age, unremarkable brainstem nuclei and white matter tracts, and no focal lesions. Midsagittal section of the cerebellar vermis and serial parasagittal sections of the cerebellar hemispheres are unremarkable. The dentate nucleus of the cerebellum is present and unremarkable.

NECK:

The soft tissues and prevertebral fascia of the neck are unremarkable. The hyoid bone and larynx are intact. The tongue is unremarkable.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The intimal surface of the aorta is free of atherosclerosis. The aorta, its major branches, and the great veins are normally distributed. The pericardium, epicardium, and endocardium are smooth, glistening, and unremarkable. There are no thrombi in the atria or ventricles. The foramen ovale is closed. The coronary arterial system is right predominant and is free of atherosclerosis; however, the proximal left anterior descending coronary artery demonstrates “tunneling”. The atrial and ventricular septa are intact. The cardiac valves are unremarkable. There is slight biventricular dilatation (right greater than left). The myocardium is dark red-brown and firm, with no focal abnormalities.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The upper airway is unobstructed, but does contain small amounts of gastric contents. The laryngeal mucosa is smooth and unremarkable, without petechiae. The pleural surfaces are smooth and shiny. The pulmonary arteries contain no emboli. The major bronchi are unremarkable except for the presence of some gastric contents. Sectioning of the lungs discloses a dark red-blue, mottled, somewhat congested parenchyma.

HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM:

The liver is covered by a smooth, glistening capsule. The parenchyma is dark red-brown and moderately congested. The gallbladder contains no calculi. The extrahepatic biliary ducts are unremarkable.

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM:

The esophageal mucosa is gray, smooth, and unremarkable. The stomach contains 250 mL of tan semi-fluid substance. The gastric mucosa has normal rugal folds and there are no ulcers. The small and large intestines are unremarkable. The appendix is present. The pancreas is unremarkable externally and on sectioning.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The subcapsular surfaces of the kidneys are smooth and slightly lobulated. The cortices are of normal thickness. The calyces, pelves, and ureters are unremarkable. The urinary bladder contains 75 mL of clear, yellow urine. The mucosa is gray, smooth, and unremarkable. The prostate gland is unremarkable. The testicles are unremarkable.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid and adrenal glands are unremarkable externally and on sectioning.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen is covered by a smooth, blue-gray, intact capsule. The parenchyma is dark red. The lymph nodes are unremarkable. The thymus is unremarkable.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The clavicles, ribs, sternum, pelvis, and vertebral column have no fractures. The diaphragm is intact.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION:

LUNGS – Hyperexpanded alveolar spaces; bronchial mucosal hemorrhage; focal chronic bronchial inflammation.

THYROID – Variably-sized follicles; dark colloid.

ADRENAL, LIVER, THYMUS, HEART, KIDNEY, PANCREAS – Unremarkable.

BRAIN (per Lieber report) – Unremarkable adult brain.

SLIDE KEY:

A: Adrenal, liver, thymus

B: Lungs

C: Heart, kidney

D: Pancreas, thyroid

(BRAIN slides as per Lieber report)

VITREOUS ELECTROLYTES:

Sodium	118	mEq/L
Potassium	7.5	mEq/L
Chloride	124	mEq/L
Urea nitrogen	17	mg/dL
Creatinine	1.05	mg/dL
Glucose	<35	mg/dL

TOXICOLOGY:

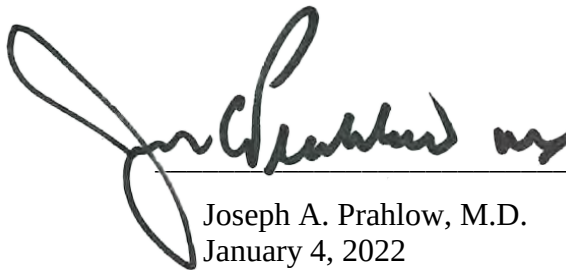
FEMORAL BLOOD -	Mitragynine -	2100 ng/mL
	Caffeine -	0.85 mcg/mL
	Cotinine -	Positive

FINAL FINDINGS:

- I. Toxic effects of mitragynine
- II. Not found: Anatomic explanation for death

CONCLUSION:

Based upon the autopsy findings and the history as available to me, it is my opinion that Matthew Eller, a 22-year-old white male, died as a result of the toxic effects of mitragynine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Prahlow MD", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a stylized "MD" at the end.

Joseph A. Prahlow, M.D.
January 4, 2022

Communication from Public

Name: Jason

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 07:19 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge you to amend and not to ban Kratom, 7-Hydroxymitragynine, or any other alkaloids related to mitragynine. It is also important that we have the absolute facts here. I don't think the decisions are being made with enough information. I've seen tales of death due to 7-Hydroxymitragynine. That's not a fact, there have been zero deaths related to this product alone. Every death attributed to it has also had other substances involved. This is not some scary new street drug! We have alcohol and marijuana for legal sale on our city streets but this is the product we've chosen to fight against? One that is actively saving lives? Possibly criminalizing it? I thought we would do better and be better. I urge you to wait for any ruling until you have the facts. You might have to ouch for new transparent studies on mitragynine and any naturally occurring alkaloids, but you definitely should be armed with the facts before making any decisions. While I support the intent to ensure kratom product safety and transparency, several provisions would unfairly restrict naturally derived 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) products and harm responsible consumers and small businesses. Also, it should be said how this product being available has saved countless lives. It is a very large reason for the drop in overdose deaths from fentanyl. A VERY LARGE reason. But even if it saves only one life, perhaps my own, why would you want to make it impossible for me to get? Suggested solutions: • Remove or revise the 2% 7-OH limit. This arbitrary cap has no scientific or toxicological basis and would effectively ban 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) products that are naturally derived from kratom alkaloids. Replace it with a reasonable product-based limit, such as 25–30 mg of 7-OH per product, reflecting realistic, naturally derived concentrations from oxidation or extraction. I support the bill's existing safety measures — testing, accurate labeling, and Certificates of Analysis — which already ensure consumer protection. However, a percentage-based cap unfairly targets 7-OH while allowing mitragynine products with up to 1,000 mg or more per unit to remain unrestricted. If safety were the true intent, both natural alkaloids should be held to consistent standards. This selective restriction benefits certain large vendors and undermines equal-market fairness and science-based regulation. • Clarify the definition of “synthetic.” Explicitly state

that naturally derived alkaloids and extracts obtained from *Mitragyna speciosa* — including concentrated or oxidized 7-hydroxymitragynine — are not synthetic when produced through standard extraction or oxidation with food-grade solvents. These are the same processes utilized for mitragynine extracts and do not involve chemical synthesis from non-plant materials. •

Direct enforcement toward bad actors. Penalties should focus on vendors who mislabel, adulterate, or sell unsafe products — not responsible businesses or consumers who meet labeling and testing standards. Centering policy on safety, transparency, and responsible access allows Michigan to set a science-based model that protects public health while preserving fair access to natural kratom alkaloids. Fentanyl overdose deaths are in decline, the largest reason for this is the availability of 7-Hydroxymitragynine. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Jason

Communication from Public

Name: Keaton box

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 07:20 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Keaton Box. I was a struggling addict and alcoholic for years until I found kratom and 7 oh 8 years ago. Both kratom and 7 oh have kept me off of alcohol and illegal drugs ever since I first tried it. Now, I have a successful career as a band director and have found balance and peace in my life. Please, do not criminalize responsible adults who choose to take these natural products. Prohibition will only hurt those who are finding relief with kratom and its alkaloids. There have been no confirmed deaths from 7 oh when taken alone. It's a safe alternative for those who otherwise would go to the street or to the liquor store. If a person can legally go to the liquor store and buy enough alcohol to drink themselves to death, then surely we can allow responsible adults to consume and purchase much safer products like Kratom and 7 oh. Please, let's regulate, educate, and keep Kratom and 7 oh legal. Prohibition and the war on drugs does NOT WORK. Do not criminalize the thousands of people that use this natural, much safer alternative. Follow the science and the facts, not the fear mongering and propaganda set in motion by people who do not understand nor use these products themselves. Thank you for understanding and listening to the people who these products are helping.

Communication from Public

Name: Shane Maciel

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 07:28 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking for consideration of regulation of Kratom raw Leaf product. It has immensely improved My Life by allowing me to avoid my addictions to opioids and alcohol. Not only have I been able to maintain a successful job as a professional health care provider but I'm also able to manage my other parts of life that I was not able to do when I had my other addictions. Not only does Kratom allow clarity releases concerns of Behavioral Health matters helps people avoid addiction but it also improves inflammation assist with chronic pain helps with vascular disease as well. Please consider regulating kratom. Synthetic materials such as the other 708 that is being on the ballot should seriously be considered to be banned. Unfortunately I have taken part in the 708 misleading representation thinking that it was Kratom when in fact it was 7:08. Please take this into consideration that raw Leaf Kratom has successfully allowed me to become a contributing and mindful sincere impacting individual in society thank you for hearing this

Communication from Public

Name: Cole
Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 07:38 AM
Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: So when I got out of high school I drank and smoked a ton leading me to doing horrible things and regrets everywhere from doing things drunk. I found kratom and it was my alternative to drinking and smoking. I stopped both completely and made a positive impact in my life. Kratom tho is stimulating and helps for energy but it's too stimulating for me causing anxiety im certain situation and making me sick and in panic. 7oh had provided a way better approach for me it has taken my anxiety way and helps me relax with all the stress in life. I stopped drinking and stopped smoking now I'm the healthiest I've ever been using 7 oh with the least anxiety I've ever had in my life and even started going to the gym for first time in 10 years thanks to 7oh. It also helps me fish my seasonal depression and my blood labs are the best they've ever been in my life. I understand if we can meet in the middle and take 7 oh out of smoke shops and only sold online etc. The only danger is it being mis marketed. Other then that the safety net of it is the best thing there is and ever will be. There is nothing like the kratom/ 7 oh family. There will be nothing with the back story of 7 oh and kratom. Banning it will only promote worst things that have respiratory issues and people having organ failure. This has the back history and proof for everything it only is dsngerous being told the lies and miss marketed. This already has saved so many lives and o strongly believe why the od have went down. I would greatly agree with warning signs and not sold on smoke shops but to ban and restrict something that has no proof of hurting people besides being told on lies in it fair. Op have been a problem for a while since the gov made it, this is the closest thing to natural and not harmful. Alcohol kills people daily and is worst in every way, I just don't get how that can be allowed but something like this that is less brain altering can be taken away this can be a positive in the community and save so many lives please b consider. I really don't want my life and other to go backwards or even die from this substances go away, one wrong drink and bad decision or one laced drug and dead. Life is so much bigger then that it's so important and so many loved ones matter, this is a stepping stone for so many people and it's not harming them. Please think of us and thank for listening to my story. ????????

Communication from Public

Name: SC

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 08:01 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: This is horrible government overreach based on nothing but fear mongering. Kratom and Kratom derived products are far safer than Tylenol (which kills and injures hundreds of people each year). Kratom is not causing death, addiction, and the homeless issues that plague the city. This overreaction will do nothing to help the people of Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Cherry

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 08:06 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the ban on 7oh and kratom and this is why, kratom and its alkaloids 7oh has given me my quality of life back. A chronic pain patient i live with constant pain and anxiety. Kratom and 7oh takes that pain away without all of the negative side effects that RX pain meds come with. This would be a travesty if you were to ban this plant and its alkaloids. Please dont buy into all of the propaganda and fear mongering tactics that the media is using to demonize this plant. It is saving countless lives.

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriel Duley

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 08:20 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a 50-year-old male with multiple sclerosis. I live a very hard life. A significant pain every day every moment. 70H actually helps me get up out of bed, do dishes? And wash myself in the shower. Doctors are not allowed to give out pain medication Nowadays, please don't take what helps me The most away.

Communication from Public

Name: kevin highfill

Date Submitted: 10/28/2025 04:01 PM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Kevin and I'm writing today to voice my strong opposition to the proposed ban of 7-OH, a natural alkaloid found in the leaves of the kratom plant. I want to advocate for the use of this natural plant based alternative to to potentially more harmful pharmaceutical alternatives. I live with pain everyday from a motor accident ten years ago. Addicted to legally obtained prescription pain medications just to live a somewhat "normal" functioning life. A situation I wouldn't wish on anyone. I began looking for alternatives because I didn't like the many unwanted side effects from medications like hydrocodone and oxycodone. What I found was kratom. Kratom is a plant that helped me get off these prescribed pain medications with great success. Enter 7-OH. A naturally occurring alkaloid found in kratom that is responsible for many of the key benefits. I am writing you to ask that you follow the science. There have been exactly ZERO deaths attributed to 7-OH with millions of daily users. None. Not a single one. I want to advocate that my government seeks formal safety and toxicity studies and a non biased evaluation before scheduling 7-OH. I demand an end to corporate influence over safe and natural compounds. We are talking about the quality of life every person has a right to. Not whose pockets get lined the most. I strongly oppose scheduling 7-OH because it clearly does not meet any of the guidelines or requirement for the proposed scheduling. Science. Science is what we should use to determine if a compound needs to be scheduled. Legitimate facts. We should be funding research for this amazing plant and the alkaloids within. NOT banning it from people who need it. Beyond that, 7-OH has a huge harm reduction potential. This compound 7-OH, is far, far safer than traditional opioids. 7-OH is not only letting people living with crippling pain lead somewhat normal lives, it is helping untold numbers of people recover from more serious drug addictions. Please understand that I am 100% in favor of smart regulation that ensures this compound is safe and in the hands of adults who need it. I want to thank you for your time and consideration. Please take a moment to consider these sources: • **Henningfield et al. (2022) – FDA Scheduling Critique of 7-OH (PMC8860177) **— Shows 7-OH doesn't meet Schedule I criteria; banning it may increase overdose deaths by removing safer alternatives. ??

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8860177/> • **Kumar et al. (2018) – Atypical Opioid Modulation by 7-OH (ResearchGate 301787574) **— Demonstrates 7-OH is a G protein-biased mu-opioid receptor agonist linked to improved safety vs. traditional opioids. ??

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301787574> • **Kruegel et al. (2019) – Safety Profile of 7-OH (PMC6598159) **— Finds 7-OH has partial G protein-biased activity at MOR with lower risk for fatal respiratory depression. ??

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6598159/>

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriel Duley

Date Submitted: 10/28/2025 06:57 PM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a 50-year-old male with multiple sclerosis. I have severe pain. It's hard to get up to even take a shower. Doctors aren't allowed to prescribe pain medication Anymore nowadays. 70H helps me be able to get up. Take a shower, do the dishes. And try to enjoy somewhat of a life.

Communication from Public

Name: David Berg

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 12:02 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: My son, Josiah Berg, started taking kratom to help him with energy. He started taking more to help him with social anxiety and within a year found himself heavily addicted. He sought help with a therapist but was unable to cut back or quit on his own, and on October 27th 2023 we got a visit from a chaplain informing us that he had died during the night. We were shocked, he wasn't using illegal drugs and was the picture of health, and we couldn't believe that something marketed as safe and non addictive could have been responsible and it took almost six months before we got the toxicology report back confirming that yes, he had died from a toxic level of kratom. This stuff is available at dozens of gas stations and smoke shops in our city and I can speak from personal experience by visiting the stores that the clerks have no concern for safety for the health and well being of their customers, creating a system whereby minimum wage, uneducated clerks are peddling a drug that has killed thousands in our country and caused severe harm via a debilitating addiction in tens of thousands more. There is no reputable study showing what a "safe dose" is, and until there is, this product needs to be banned entirely. Please join us in preventing another knock on someone's door announcing the devastating news that a loved one has died from a drug that has no business being sold without any regulation. We just went through the second anniversary of Josiah's death yesterday and although we are doing as well as can be thanks to intense counseling and community support, our lives are shattered and will never be the same. Our son's death was preventable, and we implore you to prevent it from happening again. Thank you for your time, David Berg.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 01:08 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: Please do NOT impose the proposed ban. This ban will negatively affect my quality of life by making this natural, effective medicine unavailable to me.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris ODonoghue

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 01:47 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: Hey my name is Chris ODonoghue. Im a 39 year old male. I have had several huge surgeries. My lower back was my biggest surgery. I have had lower back pain since a child and finally got surgery that didn't fix my issue 100%. I have had constant back pain in my life which is difficult to live with. Also,I had a pin put into my ankle to hold it together from an accident. Im actually missing a big part of the outside of my right ankle. My motion is very limited on my ankle. I also broke my collar bone and didn't get surgery because there is no surgery if you shatter it unless they put a plate in and its not necessary the dr. told me. Im 39 years old so everytime I go see a doctor for pain they think im just abusing pills and they refuse to give me anything. Just while in the hospital they gave me pain killers and then a 7 day script after. Let that sit in 7 days. WITHOUT 7 oh i literally cant do ANYTHING. 7 oh gives me a chance at living a normal life. I have 2 dogs which I can actually walk almost 2 miles down the road with them after I get some 7 oh into my system. Its nice because i can finally walk my dogs almost everyday and give them a better life as well. I was always up almost every night barely getting any sleep because the constant pain radiating down my back and legs is escrutiating. The pain is so intense i couldn't describe it to you because it's something you would need to go through yourself. It feels like someone is putting a vice grip on my legs and back squeezing as hard as they can. 7 oh is everything to me and it brought back my life. Like i said im actually able to get off the couch and do things. I can sleep full nights now and think clearly throughout the day. Im 100% a better person because of 7 OH. 7 OH is very important to me and my well being. Thanks for listening and please don't take away the only thing that has been working for me.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael M.

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 02:08 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: As a California resident, I urge you to please vote against the measure to ban Kratom and its minor alkaloid 7-hydroxymitragynine (7OH). As a disabled individual with chronic, frequently severe Kratom and 7OH have been nothing short of a Godsend in terms of giving me a quality of life that most people likely take for granted. I am both a professor and a volunteer for low income individuals seeking assistance in preparing for their high school equivalency certification. I became aware of Kratom over 10 years ago when sources online gave anecdotal accounts about its ability to assist with pain resulting from Crohn's disease. Not only did the plant eradicate my pain with no ill or intoxicating side effects, but it has helped me stay in remission. I never personally developed a physical dependency on Kratom even after many years of daily use. I have thankfully avoided ever needing a prescription opioid medication, nor do I ever wish to seek one out. After I was injured in a bike accident, the pain in my neck and shoulders was almost always a 7 or 8 out of 10, and Kratom itself only brought it down to a 6/10, even with tolerance breaks. 7OH not only made me feel instantly better, but it also boosted my cognition. More shockingly, I found that I had zero desire to drink alcohol or use marijuana, which I otherwise rotated between to give an extra bit of pain relief. More importantly than helping with my own lower level substance use, it is impossible not to think of those countless human beings, we all see every single day, folded over, struggling not to pass out, and potentially die. 7OH has the potential to radically clean up the substance-abuse problems that are plaguing our communities. After three months of consecutive use, I decided to taper off of 7OH as I no longer needed it after around physical therapy. While I did experience mild withdrawal effects, the symptoms predominantly consisted of 2 to 3 days of a low level flu and some stomach discomfort. After day three I was shocked to find that I was almost completely mended. I am grateful to have only drawn withdrawn from a single other substance in my life: nicotine, my Catholic mind can only describe the process of nicotine as a form of divine punishment inflicted across the entire brain and body. I would rather be in 7OH withdrawal every single day for the rest of my life, than have to quit vaping once more. Please side with reason and science, not scare stories and business

wars to guide your decision making today I respect and applaud all that you do for us as civil servants, and know that your best interests lie within serving the community. It is my firm belief that banning kratom and 7OH would only harm that community and potentially push many onto very dangerous street, drugs. Thank you very much for your time This message was written on an iPhone, so I appreciate your patience with any minor typos

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 03:29 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: My wife and I both use Kratom and 7oh products. Before starting use for either of us, I spent months and months researching and talking to people to really attempt to UNDERSTAND this thing. We as a society need to really look the kratom plant and it's alkaloids and properties, both individually and as members of the HUMAN FAMILY, to help all of us see this situation for what it really is. A ban is going to make things worse. America has had a drug problem. We have tried prohibition and it fails every time. Americans say they love freedom but true freedom requires knowledge and discipline. Drugs are not the responsible for our behaviors. This is a beautiful plant. Its helps so many people and will continue to grow if we support it. 7oh is also beautiful. My wife has a very sensitive stomach and the 7 is a lot easier on her body than a bunch or plant matter. I have a very trusted source that has alkaloid content labs and also residual solvent labs showcasing exactly what is in the product that I give to my sick wife. The lab they use is renowned and is transparent with the public. I have never gotten sick or any ill side effects because the company is transparent and i am using my brain and have a routine/schedule that my wife and I both have the will power to maintain. The withdrawal is akin to a moderate to heavy opioid use withdrawal symptoms. That's okay though because 7 is a partial agonist and you can taper off very simply with minimal discomfort. The reason this works for us so well is because we are conscious and active within our lives and have accountability for ourselves. We are both very aware that if we stop taking it that then we will not feel good. Its really a small price to pay. We have both experimented with the withdrawals and it's more on the minor side of things. Restlessness and discomfort in general. Yawning, runny nose, sneezing etc...its like getting sick for a week because well....you are Anyway, kratom and ALL of its Alakaloids are very useful an should be accessible to the American public in an honest and transparent, regulated, and safe fashion. Maybe a dedicated store format so to help teach and spread the full truth about this wonderful plant. I would be crushed to see anyone lose access to this medicine! We have tried the pharmaceuticals and we have decided that this helps more. FOR US.

Communication from Public

Name: Christopher

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 05:06 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Christopher, and I discovered Kratom in 2015 during one of the most challenging periods of my life. What began as a search for something to help me manage daily pain turned into a journey that completely reshaped my understanding of health, healing, and the natural world. At just eight years old, I was hit by a car. That one moment changed everything. Between the ages of eight and thirteen, I suffered roughly forty knee dislocations. By the time I was thirteen, I had undergone my first knee surgery. At twenty-two, I needed a second. Living in constant pain became my everyday life. I would wake up every day with one goal: to get through the pain just enough to function. Doctors prescribed a long list of medications over the years, strong ones. Demerol was part of my teenage routine. My tolerance was high early on, and like many in the same situation, I fell into a cycle of ever-stronger prescriptions to maintain some level of daily activity. Physical play as a kid? That was out of reach. Gym class? I was sidelined. Instead, I buried myself in learning about diet, nutrition, and exercise, even though I couldn't physically do most of it. That led to periods of weight gain, especially between surgeries. By sixteen, after my second surgery and a brief period of physical recovery, I worked hard to regain my strength using bodyweight exercises. Still, the pain never went away. And the prescriptions kept coming. In 2011, I had a major heart attack. Once again, doctors suggested opiates instead of NSAIDs and Aleve. It felt like I was being pushed right back into a system I had already spent years trying to survive. The cycle of pharmaceutical dependency was relentless, and it wasn't helping me live. It was just helping me cope. Then in 2015, everything started to change. I was at a breaking point, physically and emotionally. That's when I found Kratom. Then, in 2017, things worsened. I was diagnosed with aggressive squamous cell carcinoma. I broke five ribs from coughing alone. I didn't even know they were broken until after I had surgery to remove the cancer. It was a dark, confusing time, and the pain was overwhelming. In 2018, I was diagnosed with osteopenia. That's when the reality hit me: years of opioid use were catching up. I had to make a change. And that's when Kratom became more than just a curiosity. It became a lifeline. I began replacing pharmaceuticals and alcohol with natural options. I leaned into herbal remedies, especially Kratom,

and for the first time in decades, I felt like I could breathe. I could move. I could live. Kratom has played a pivotal role in helping me reclaim my quality of life. It doesn't numb me out; it helps me stay clear, focused, and present. It gave me my life back in a way that prescriptions never did. And I'm not alone. Millions of Americans rely on real, traditionally prepared Kratom to manage their lives in a safer, more natural way. That's why protecting access to genuine, unadulterated Kratom is so essential not just for me, but for every person out there who's trying to find a way through pain, through hardship, without turning to addictive or dangerous options. Nature gave us this plant for a reason. It's not about getting high. It's about finding balance, peace, and strength when nothing else seems to work. I believe in this plant and in fighting to keep it safe, legal, and available for anyone who needs it. Let's protect the authentic natural kratom because real lives depend on it. Thank you for your time, Christopher Deaney

Communication from Public

Name: Rodney K.

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 05:12 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: To whom it may concern: I am a 64 year old man who is a regular user of both Kratom and 7OH for several years now. These products have been a tremendous help in managing pain and depression. I was also able to stop using opiates, mainly Tramadol, for my neck pain. As I get older and get more aches and pains I can't imagine how miserable life would be without the help of these products. Thank you, Rodney K. Omaha, Nebraska

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 05:23 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: With a scoliosis diagnosis on top of getting hit by a car at age 19 I was prescribed opioids by countless doctors. That led to my fentanyl addiction and eight overdoses. I've been cleaning over three years now and have been using 7OH to manage my pain. It's the only thing that allows me to work and actually function. Banning this substance will not only hurt but kill millions of people. My tolerance has never went up and my life has never become unmanageable while using 7OH

Communication from Public

Name: Sean Bentley

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 05:26 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I am reaching out to you because I have heard you might be considering a ban on Kratom and I wanted to share my story with you and why I believe this would be a horrible decision. My name is Sean Bentley and Kratom gave me my life back. I suffered from chronic depression that made my life miserable and caused me to want to stay in bed 24/7. Doctors tried different prescriptions but they only numbed me and my emotions. Kratom on the other hand didn't! It allowed me to get off those numbing prescriptions and gave me my quality of life back. It allows me to be present in my family's life and I wouldn't know what to do without it. I urge you to not ban this plant as it is safe and extremely helpful to thousands of people! Thank you for your time, Sean Bentley

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 05:46 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: 7-OH is a godsend. The supposed "dangers" are being pushed nonevidentiarily and dishonestly.

Communication from Public

Name: Patrick

Date Submitted: 10/29/2025 06:06 AM

Council File No: 25-0002-S82

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to thank you for your willingness to listen to the voices of those who will be affected by your decision. Kratom and its constituent alkaloids have been a real and true quality of life changing medicine for many of us with specific illnesses, hidradenitis suppurativa for myself, and many other physically AND mentally debilitating conditions. It has allowed many of us to get away from the chemical medications, mainly big pharma opioids, to a life where we actually want to wake up in the morning and be functioning, productive members of society, rather than the daily misery many of us deal with without kratom and its alkaloids. Please don't just rip this away from us, because the majority will just turn to the truly bad and dangerous, life destroying chemicals like heroin and fentanyl which will just continue to exacerbate the opioid epidemic in this country. I believe regulation and oversight is necessary, no question, but to just outright ban and make this illegal, will be doing a GREAT dis-service to so many of us who have found and use this life changing medicine. Not to mention the destruction it will inevitably cause to all of us when it is all of a sudden just unavailable, just like doctor prescribed antidepressants and many other drugs, you CANNOT just simply stop taking it, so you will essentially just be forcing us to find something else to replace it and all the other options out there are either impossible to be prescribed by a doctor or illegal and so much more dangerous. I implore you to please think about your decision and do the right thing by regulating and not banning this substance. It is the right thing to do and if this hearing is meant to "help" the people, by making a specific decision, I cannot stress enough that you will 100% be HURTING more people than you help if you ban this. Thank you for your time and I hope you truly give some serious thought into how this is helping so many people and not JUST its potential harm. Almost everything in this world has the POTENTIAL for harm if used or dealt with the wrong way, you can die from taking too many Advil, that doesn't mean it should be outright banned. Thank you again and I hope you have a great day.