

The facts

behind kratom regulation

Kratom consumers need protection from adulterated products, not a ban that does far more harm than good.



Benefits to kratom regulation

Kratom consumers currently have **no protection from bad actors selling adulterated kratom products** in most states or at the federal level. Unregulated products can contain dangerous drugs or be mixed with other compounds and contaminants.

Legal regulation provides **a safe supply of the substance** that must meet strict government standards as well as important safeguards such as age restrictions and ID checks.

“We advocate for the FDA to regulate kratom, which would require testing for impurities and maintaining safe levels of the active chemicals. Otherwise, unregulated products run the risk of unsafe additives and dosing problems.”

*ALBERT GARCIA-ROMEY, PH.D.,
A KRATOM RESEARCHER AND
PROFESSOR AT THE JOHN HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.*

Why a ban would be harmful

Banning kratom possession would **criminalize consumers, impede research and endanger the lives of kratom consumers** who rely on the product for pain relief or to help manage opioid withdrawal symptoms.

“Public health is better served by assuring continued access to kratom products by consumers and researchers.”

*FRONTIERS IN PHARMACOLOGY
REVIEW OF MORE THAN 100
STUDIES ON KRATOM.*

The Kratom Consumer Protection Act

The bill standardizes **good practices of kratom production and labeling**, bans adulteration and limits artificially elevating the amount of active compounds in the product. A federal bill is expected to be introduced this year.



What the states are doing

Numerous states have enacted the Kratom Consumer Protection Act, and more than 12 legislatures considered the measure this year.

Seven states have passed the KCPA: Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Utah.

History of government action

In 2016, the federal government withdrew a proposal to schedule kratom under the Controlled Substances Act in response to tens of thousands of public comments from kratom consumers and bipartisan members of Congress.

In 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services said that kratom should not be controlled “temporarily or permanently until scientific research can sufficiently support such an action.”

Unfortunately, inaccurate and outdated claims by the Food and Drug Administration continue to surface despite scientific evidence that kratom can be a powerful tool in the fight against opioid use.

“There is a significant risk of immediate adverse public health consequences for potentially millions of users if kratom or its components are included in Schedule I [of the Controlled Substances Act].”

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES

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