

HB 1667 -- KRATOM PRODUCTS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

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 HCS HB 350 (2021).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that kratom products have been shown to have beneficial effects, including pain relief. Kratom products can be a safer alternative to opioid drugs. However, there are currently no direct state regulations of kratom products. This can result in dishonest or otherwise misleading business practices. Products may be inappropriately labeled or sold as kratom products when they are contaminated or of low quality. This bill provides a simple regulatory framework to ensure the production and sale of kratom products meets minimum standards to ensure safety and honesty in the sale and offering of these products.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Christofanelli; American Kratom Association; and Arnie C. AC Dienoff.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.