

1 A RESOLUTION encouraging the Kentucky Department for Public Health, in  
2 conjunction with the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy, to issue a public statement  
3 to increase awareness in the Commonwealth on the potential harm of consuming 7-  
4 hydroxymitragynine products.

5 WHEREAS, kratom contains two main chemical compounds, mitragynine and 7-  
6 hydroxmitragynine, both of which bind to the same receptors in the brain as opioid  
7 drugs such as codeine; and

8 WHEREAS, mitragynine is naturally present in kratom in much higher quantities  
9 than 7-hydroxymitragynine; and

10 WHEREAS, 7-hydroxymitragynine is a terpenoid indole alkaloid that acts on the  
11 brain's opioid receptors; and

12 WHEREAS, according to the United States Food and Drug Administration, 7-  
13 hydroxymitragynine may produce classic opioid-related effects including sedation,  
14 nausea and vomiting, physical dependence and withdrawals, and respiratory depression;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, 7-hydroxymitragynine is an addictive substance; and

17 WHEREAS, food chemists have developed techniques to synthesize 7-  
18 hydroxymitragynine from mitragynine allowing the artificial increase in the levels of 7-  
19 hydroxymitragynine in kratom products; and

20 WHEREAS, according to a study published in the Addiction Biology Journal, the  
21 consumption of 7-hydroxymitragynine can lead to an increased utilization of other  
22 opioids including morphine; and

23 WHEREAS, the analgesic properties of 7-hydroxymitragynine are 13 times greater  
24 than morphine; and

25 WHEREAS, there are companies marketing products labeled as kratom that may  
26 primarily contain the more potent synthetic product called 7-hydroxmitragynine;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*  
2 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3       ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives encourage the  
4 Kentucky Department for Public Health, in conjunction with the Kentucky Office of  
5 Drug Control Policy, to issue a public statement to increase awareness in the  
6 Commonwealth on the potential harm of consuming 7-hydroxymitragynine products.

7       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a  
8 copy of this Resolution to the Kentucky Department for Public Health, the Kentucky  
9 Office of Drug Control Policy, and the Governor.