

April 10, 2023

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- Medical

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- Dental

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- Primary Care
- Dental
- Behavioral Health
- Women's Health Services

18 Market Street, Suite C Mt. Clemens, M1 48043 PH 586.783,2222 FX 586.783.6280

- Primary Care
- Behavioral Health
- Medication Assisted Treatment
- Women's Health Services

43740 North Groesbeck Highway Clinton Township, MI 48036 PH 586.493.0961 FX 586.493.1001

- Primary Care
- Behavioral Health

House Regulatory Reform committee P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7536

RE: HB 4061 - Kratom Consumer Protection and Regulatory Act

Dear Chairperson Tyrone Carter,

I have worked in the public health arena for over 25 years. The Community Health Center that I have the privilege of leading provides medication assisted treatment to treat opioid and alcohol addiction. When doing our urine drug screens for our patients, they frequently test positive for kratom. Patients believe kratom is safe because it is sold over the counter. kratom has been marketed to the public as a mood enhancer, pain reliever, and antidote for opioid withdrawal.

Given that kratom is not regulated, and the amount of active ingredient in the plant can vary greatly. Claims about the benefits of kratom cannot be evaluated because reliable evidence is lacking. What we do know is that poison control centers in the United States received about 1,800 reports involving use of kratom from 2011 through 2017, including reports of death. About half of these exposures resulted in serious negative outcomes such as seizures and high blood pressure. Five of the seven infants who were reported to have been exposed to kratom went through withdrawal. Kratom has been classified as possibly unsafe when taken orally.

Please consider supporting HB 4061 to protect the public from this potentially dangerous plant derivative.

Respectfully,

Karen Wood

Chief Executive Officer

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