

**OPIOID ADDICTION COMMITTEE
AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021
3:00 P.M.**

ALL MEETINGS ARE IN-PERSON AND WILL BE HELD IN THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND OR MAY VIEW VIA LIVESTREAMING – PLEASE SEE COUNTY WEBSITE: WWW.ORANGECOUNTYGOV.COM THEN PROCEED TO LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR THE LINK

OPIOID ADDICTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Janet Sutherland, Chair
Kevin W. Hines, Kevindaryan Lujan, Rob Sassi, Darcie Miller

I. JANET SUTHERLAND, CHAIR, OPIOID ADDICTION COMMITTEE

Resolution of the Orange County Legislature addressing the safety concerns of Kratom and requesting Federal and State regulation of the substance

ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Committee: Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations

Sponsors:

Co-Sponsors:

Agenda No.

RESOLUTION NO. OF 2021

RESOLUTION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATURE ADDRESSING THE SAFETY CONCERNS OF KRATOM AND REQUESTING FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATION OF THE SUBSTANCE.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has warned consumers not to use *Mitrogyna speciosa*, commonly known as kratom, a plant which grows naturally in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, kratom affects the same opioid brain receptors as morphine and appears to have properties that expose users to the risks of addiction, abuse, and dependence; and

WHEREAS, the FDA has further made known its concern of serious health consequences, including death, for those who consume kratom; and

WHEREAS, kratom has been marketed for opioid cessation, pain treatment, and other medical uses with no adequate well controlled scientific studies involving the use of kratom as a treatment for opioid use withdrawal or other diseases in humans; and

WHEREAS, there have not been studies on how kratom, when combined with other substances, may impact the body, its dangers, potential side effects, or interactions with other drugs; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published data pertaining to kratom involved overdose deaths occurring between July 2016 to December 2017, in a report of April 12, 2019, noting that kratom was determined to be a cause of death for 91 out of 152 kratom-positive decedents, including seven for whom kratom was the only substance to test positive on postmortem toxicology; and

WHEREAS, kratom is deemed illegal or controlled in several countries including Australia, Denmark, Germany, Malaysia and Thailand and banned in several states and municipalities in the U.S., including Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, currently, kratom is readily and easily sold throughout Orange County at tobacco shops, gas stations, and other purveyors of various paraphernalia; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Legislature desires that evidence based studies of kratom are conducted and that regulation of this substance is administered to prevent serious health consequences and the potential death of individuals that consume kratom within the County; therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the Orange County Legislature urges the United States Food and Drug Administration and the New York State Department of Health to promptly consider guidelines and protocols for the regulation of kratom; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Legislature is hereby directed to forward a certified copies of this Resolution to Janet Woodcock, M.D., Acting Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, United States Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand, United States Senator Charles E. Schumer, United States Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, New York State Senator James Skoufis, New York State Senator Mike Martucci, New York State Assemblyman Karl Brabenec, New York State Assemblyman Colin Schmitt, New York State Assemblyman Brian D. Miller, New York State Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther, and New York State Assemblyman Jonathan G. Jacobson.

DATED: DECEMBER 2, 2021

**STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ORANGE**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I, JEAN M. RAMPEN, Clerk of the County Legislature of said County of Orange, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in my office and which was passed by the County Legislature of said County of Orange on the 2nd day of December 2021, and that the same is a correct and true transcript of such original resolution and the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of said County Legislature this 3rd day of December 2021.

Clerk of the County Legislature of the County of Orange