

To all persons in this hearing and legislative arena,

I appreciate you all taking the time to read my testimony.

I have been a consumer of Kratom since 2015. I purchase it from a very reputable seller NOT a sleazy back alley shop. The people who farm this tree work tirelessly to make sure their product is pure and comes to this country in its pure and natural state; simply a ground up leaf. There is no chemical processing done and no enhancing whatsoever. This plant is of the coffee family. When I consume this ground up leaf I do not inhale it, no snorting it, it is simply mixed with applesauce and eaten in a couple bites. One tablespoon is just enough to ease my anxiety so that I do not have to take dangerous anti-anxiety medicines. I suffer from PTSD and childhood trauma. The only possible outcome of taking too much Kratom powder is an upset stomach/nausea. Once the product is out of the stomach the body has no more issues. There is no "nodding off" no "high" no risk of the heart stopping, again because this plant is of the coffee family. Without this leaf I would need expensive medications and I would have to deal with all the side effects of them. I am fully disabled with a rare disease and live on a fixed income, there is no room for expensive medications for anxiety.

Please do not ban this plant from us, the people who have consumed it responsibly, farmed it cleanly and sell it properly.

Thank you,
Lisa m.