

HB 4013 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Sen. Thatcher**Senate Committee On Judiciary****Action Date:** 02/20/20**Action:** Do pass the A-Eng bill.**Vote:** 6-0-1-0**Yeas:** 6 - Dembrow, Gelser, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher**Exc:** 1 - Olsen**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Michael Lantz, Counsel**Meeting Dates:** 2/20**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Governor's Office, Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC), and Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to develop plan for the future regulation of kratom in collaboration with the kratom industry. Requires report on plan to Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2020. Makes distribution, sale, or attempted sale of kratom-containing product to individual under 21 a Class C misdemeanor. Defines terms. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Description of kratom
- Need for better regulation of kratom products
- Purpose of emergency clause

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) is a tree in the coffee family native to southeast Asia. Kratom leaves are typically chewed, brewed, or crushed into a powder and sold as pills, capsules, teas, or extracts. Kratom consumption produces stimulant effects in low doses and sedative effects in high doses. It can be used recreationally to treat pain, and for opioid cessation, though there are few scientific studies on the effects of kratom use or the effectiveness of treatments involving kratom. The United States Drug Enforcement Administration lists kratom as a drug of concern and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration warned consumers in September 2019 not to use kratom as it appears to have properties that expose users to the risks of addiction, abuse, and dependence. Kratom is not currently regulated at the federal level, though Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, and Wisconsin have bans on the production and sale of kratom-containing products.

House Bill 4013-A directs the Governor's Office and specified state agencies to develop a plan for the future regulation of kratom in collaboration with the kratom industry and prohibits the distribution and sale of kratom to those under 21.