

# TESTIMONY FOR THE RECORD

SUBMITTED TO THE OHIO AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

FOR THE HEARING H. B. NO. 587

DATE MARCH 4, 2026 | 10:45 AM

NAME KEVIN CZARNECKI

TITLE CONCERNED OHIO CITIZEN

## PROTECT NATURAL KRATOM ACCESS IN OHIO

### I SUPPORT HB 587

Dear Ohio Legislature,

I am an Ohio resident writing to respectfully ask you to protect adult access to natural kratom and support a regulatory approach for H.B. 587. We need smart and diligent regulation that works to protect responsible Ohio adults who use natural kratom safely and have for decades without issue. I have used kratom for well over a decade for reasons of health and wellness. I work for a fortune 500 company and excel at my job. I have a family, I pay my taxes. I am a functioning member of society and am pleading that you consider the years of lost drug wars.

It is vital to distinguish between natural kratom leaf and novel synthetics; we owe it to our intelligence as a species to put scientific fact first. Other jurisdictions have recognized that public health concerns lie with high-concentration synthetics, not the natural leaf that has been used safely for centuries. 7OH will always be a very minuscule part of natural kratom plant, but we don't ban sugar when people die from diabetes. Excess, whether in concentrate or consumption, shouldn't punish those who would otherwise consume in considerable moderation.

Natural kratom has a long history of safe use by millions of Americans and millions of folks across the world for wellness and as an alternative to more harmful substances. Targeting high-potency synthetic products through regulation is a more effective public health strategy than a blanket ban on a product with a demonstrated history of safe use.

Thank you for your time and for considering the importance of regulation over prohibition for the citizens of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Kevin Czarnecki | 9160 Memphis Ave, Brooklyn, OH 44144