Dear Honorable Ohio Senators,

I'm writing to ask for your support in passing OH SB 299, a crucial piece of legislation that will ensure the safety and well-being of kratom consumers in our state. As a kratom consumer, I'd like to share my personal story about why this bill is so important to me.

I spent a hefty chunk of my adult life as a heroin addict, in and out of rehabs, relapse after relapse. I was neglecting my responsibilities as a father because I was trapped in addiction. I went to a program for a year, found the Lord, and things were finally looking up, however, introducing myself back into society brought severe challenges. It seemed around every corner, there were my drugs of choice. Stumbling along , I was becoming less hopeful until I found kratom. Kratom quite literally saved my life. I've never taken a narcotic or other drug since the day I found kratom a decade ago. Today, I am a loving husband and father, successful taxpayers resident of my home state, Ohio. I have no doubt that without natural, pure leaf kratom, I would either be in prison or dead. I would have abandoned my family for the hell of addiction once again. We've been pushing for the KCPA for years, to protect us consumers who rely on the pure remedies of natural kratom. Unfortunately, where there is good, there are also people for evil- creating synthetic and adulterated products for profit, no matter the repercussions. Please pass OH SB 299 to protect natural kratom and stop these harmful adulterated substances. Big Pharma wants to stop natural remedies for profit, but big pharma created the opioid epidemic that has killed or destroyed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Ohioans. I was one of them, until Kratom.

I have family who have since starting taking kratom for multitude of reasons; pain management, depression, sobriety, etc… all with drastic, life saving results that far exceed the harm pharmaceuticals were doing to them without benefit.

Natural, pure leaf kratom is safe, and I trust the Representatives I have voted for or helped to elect will follow the true science on kratom, and stand for the voice and freedom for their constituents.

Thank you for your time and I ask that you please support the passing of OH SB 299 to protect hardworking, honest Ohio consumers like me.

Sincerely,

Justin Sykes