



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 576

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6539

House of Representatives, April 22, 2021

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. STAFSTROM of the 129th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE USE OF KRATOM IN CONNECTICUT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "kratom"
2 means the leaves of the tree species *mitragyna speciosa* in any form that
3 may be inhaled, ingested or injected into the human body.

4 (b) The Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the
5 Department of Consumer Protection, the Department of Mental Health
6 and Addiction Services and the Division of Criminal Justice, shall
7 conduct a study of the use of kratom in this state. Such study shall
8 include, but need not be limited to, (1) an estimation of (A) the total use
9 of kratom across the population, (B) the number of persons under the
10 age of twenty-one who are using or have used kratom, and (C) the rate
11 of addiction to or dependency on kratom by persons who use kratom;
12 (2) a description of the method of consumption or use of kratom,
13 including the various ways in which kratom is being inhaled, ingested
14 or injected, the form of such kratom when being consumed or used, and
15 a breakdown by percentage of such consumption or use; (3) an
16 examination and description of any bona fide medicinal or palliative

17 uses for kratom; and (4) the feasibility and estimated efficacy of a
 18 prohibition on (A) the sale or possession of kratom on all persons, (B)
 19 the sale of kratom to persons under the age of twenty-one, and (C) the
 20 possession of kratom by persons under the age of twenty-one.

21 (c) Not later than December 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Public
 22 Health shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the
 23 Division of Criminal Justice, the Office of the Chief Public Defender and
 24 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
 25 cognizance of matters relating to public health and the judiciary, in
 26 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

27 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than February 1, 2022, the
 28 Division of Criminal Justice, in collaboration with the Office of the Chief
 29 Public Defender, shall submit recommendations concerning revisions to
 30 the general statutes relating to the civil and criminal penalties for the
 31 sale of kratom to persons under the age of twenty-one or the possession
 32 of kratom by persons under the age of twenty-one that would serve as
 33 a deterrent to such sale and possession of kratom, to the joint standing
 34 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 35 relating to public health and the judiciary, in accordance with the
 36 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. As used in this
 37 section, "kratom" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of this
 38 act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill which requires the Department of Public Health (DPH), in collaboration with the Department of Consumer Protection, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Division of Criminal Justice, to conduct a study of the use of kratom in this state. As each agency will use their subject matter expertise to collaborate on the study, it is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None



OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6539

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE USE OF KRATOM IN CONNECTICUT.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 37 Nay 1 (04/06/2021)