

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 203

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study and make recommendations concerning potential consumer protection measures relative to kratom.

WHEREAS, kratom is a preparation made from the leaves of *Mitragyna speciosa*, an evergreen tree that grows naturally in Southeast Asia, which can be used as either a sedative or a stimulant depending upon the amount consumed; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2019, the Louisiana Department of Health issued a report in response to House Resolution No. 177 of the 2018 Regular Session which discussed several matters relating to kratom, but did not specifically address the issue of protection of consumers from kratom products that are adulterated with dangerous non-kratom substances; and

WHEREAS, current Louisiana law, R.S. 40:989.3, prohibits the distribution of any product containing kratom to a minor; however, state law does not provide further for protection of the public from kratom products that are adulterated with dangerous non-kratom substances and sold by retailers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study and make recommendations concerning potential consumer protection measures relative to kratom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations resulting from the study called for in this Resolution to the House Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Health and Welfare not later than 60 days prior to the convening of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES