



Bill 2408 Testimony: Support with recommended amendment

September 1, 2026

Chairmen Klein and Ruby, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Commissioner Tori Siemieniewski, and I serve on the Williston City Commission. I am writing in support of SB 2408 while respectfully encouraging the Committee to consider amendments that address kratom in its natural form. Through my work in local government and discussions with public safety professionals, healthcare providers, and community stakeholders, I have become increasingly concerned about the risks associated with kratom-related products and the need for stronger oversight.

As a City Commissioner, I have had the opportunity to discuss this issue with local leaders, public safety officials, and community stakeholders. Through those conversations, I became increasingly concerned about the availability, addictive potential, and lack of oversight surrounding kratom-related products. Those concerns ultimately led the City of Williston to consider and advance a resolution supporting increased federal review and regulation of kratom products.

A copy of that resolution is attached for the Committee's reference. The resolution outlines concerns regarding addiction, product adulteration, inconsistent manufacturing standards, and the absence of a clear national regulatory framework. While local governments can help raise awareness and advocate for action, meaningful consumer protections will ultimately require leadership at the state and federal levels.

From both the information presented by public safety professionals and the available health data, I believe concerns surrounding 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) deserve serious attention. Federal health agencies have identified significant risks associated with these products, including addiction and seizures. These concerns are particularly troubling when products are marketed as safe or natural alternatives without sufficient safeguards or oversight.

Much of the public discussion surrounding kratom has focused on comparisons to alcohol, tobacco, prescription medications, narcotics, and marijuana. In my view, those comparisons often overlook important differences in risk profiles and regulatory controls. Regardless of where an individual stands on those comparisons, the fact remains that significant questions about safety, manufacturing standards, and long-term health impacts remain unresolved.

As policymakers consider the future of kratom regulation, I encourage the Committee to prioritize science-based standards, consumer safety, and public health. Until sufficient



evidence demonstrates that these products can be safely marketed and sold, I believe a cautious approach is warranted. My support for SB 2408, particularly with amendments addressing kratom in its natural form, is grounded in the belief that government should act responsibly when credible public safety concerns exist.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate the Committee's willingness to examine this important public health and public safety issue. I respectfully ask for your support of SB 2408 and for consideration of amendments that more comprehensively address kratom products. I have attached the City of Williston's recently adopted resolution regarding kratom-related products for your review and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tori Siemieniewski", is positioned above the printed name.

Commissioner Tori Siemieniewski
Williston City Commission
701-870-2961

RESOLUTION NO. 26-026

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WILLISTON SUPPORTING FEDERAL ACTION RELATED TO KRATOM PRODUCTS AND DENOUNCING THE ADDICTIVE QUALITIES OF SUBSTANCES AND ADDITIVES FOUND IN KRATOM-LABELED PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, the City of Williston is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) is a plant-based substance that has become increasingly available in retail establishments and online marketplaces throughout the United States, including within the City of Williston; and

WHEREAS, kratom products are frequently marketed as natural supplements despite growing concerns regarding their addictive potential, psychoactive effects, and the lack of standardized manufacturing practices; and

WHEREAS, numerous kratom-labeled products have been found to contain adulterants, synthetic additives, or undisclosed substances that increase the risk of dependency, toxicity, and adverse health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued public health warnings regarding kratom products, citing risks including addiction, abuse, and contamination, and has taken enforcement actions against companies distributing adulterated or misbranded kratom products; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has documented cases of kratom-related overdoses and poisonings, including incidents involving products contamination including synthetic opioids; and

WHEREAS, the lack of federal regulation or classification of kratom related products has resulted in inconsistent state-level policies, creating confusion for consumers and challenges for local governments seeking to protect public health; and

WHEREAS, the City of Williston recognizes the need for clear, science-based federal action to regulate, restrict, or otherwise address the distribution, marketing, and sale of kratom products; and

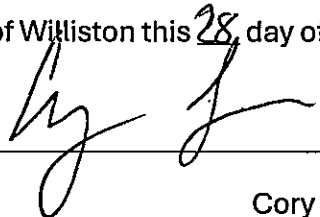
WHEREAS, the City of Williston seeks to proactively discourage the use of kratom-labeled products within the community due to their addictive qualities, potential for misuse, and the presence of harmful additives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Williston:

1. The City of Williston formally supports federal efforts by the FDA, CDC, DEA, and other relevant agencies to evaluate, regulate, and take appropriate action regarding kratom-labeled products.
2. The City of Williston urges Congress and federal regulatory bodies to establish clear national standards governing the manufacturing, labeling, sale, and distribution of kratom products, including restrictions on adulterants and synthetic additives.
3. The City of Williston denounces the addictive qualities of kratom-related products and the dangerous additives found in many kratom-labeled products, and encourages residents to avoid the use of such substances.
4. The City of Williston encourages federal agencies to continue research into the health impacts of kratom-related products, including their potential for addiction, contamination, and adverse interactions with other substances.
5. The City of Williston directs its staff to share this resolution with federal representatives, state officials, and relevant public health agencies to demonstrate the City's support for stronger national action on kratom-related products.

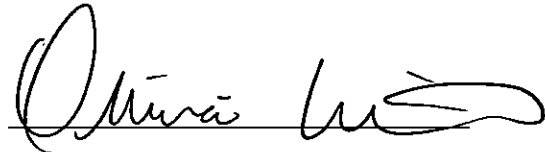
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Williston this 28 day of July, 2026.



Cory Swint
President, Board of City Commissioners

ATTEST:



City Clerk