

House Resolution 1160

By: Representative Hill of the 3<sup>rd</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Risks Associated with Kratom; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, although kratom is a relatively new drug to the United States, it has been used  
4 for many years in Southeast Asia as an anti-diarrheal medicine, a painkiller, and a  
5 recreational drug; and

6 WHEREAS, kratom is a plant that grows in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Papua New  
7 Guinea. However, kratom is banned in Australia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Thailand and,  
8 in the United States, is banned in Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Tennessee, and Wisconsin;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, kratom is being advertised as a replacement for opioid painkillers and touted  
11 as a way to treat addiction to opioids; and

12 WHEREAS, kratom is contained in unregulated supplements as a concentration booster and  
13 workout enhancer; and

14 WHEREAS, according to FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, "evidence shows that kratom  
15 has similar effects to narcotics like opioids, and carries similar risks of abuse, addiction and  
16 in some cases, death"; and

17 WHEREAS, calls to poison control centers in the United States regarding kratom have  
18 increased ten-fold from 2010 to 2015; and

19 WHEREAS, on February 6, 2018, Commissioner Gottlieb released a statement declaring  
20 kratom to be an opioid; and

21 WHEREAS, "As the scientific data and adverse event reports have clearly revealed,  
22 compounds in kratom make it so it isn't just a plant — it's an opioid," Commissioner Gottlieb  
23 declared in the statement; and

24 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the use and risks of kratom to determine if action  
25 by the state is necessary to address the issue.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

27 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
28 on Risks Associated with Kratom.

29 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of three members of the  
30 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
31 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
32 of the committee.

33 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
34 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
35 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

36 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
37 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
38 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
39 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

40 (5) **Allowances and funding.** Members of the committee who are members of the  
41 General Assembly shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of  
42 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution  
43 shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days unless  
44 additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
45 resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives.

46 (6) **Report.**

47 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
48 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the  
49 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
50 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

51 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
52 proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)  
53 of this paragraph.

54 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
55 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.

56 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with  
57 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

58 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the  
59 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu  
60 thereof.

61 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2018.