

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to controlled substances; requiring  
3           the Attorney General's office, the Department of  
4           Children and Families' Substance Abuse and Mental  
5           Health Program Office, and the Department of Law  
6           Enforcement to collect data regarding mitragyna  
7           speciosa korth, also known as "Kratom"; providing data  
8           collection requirements; requiring a report; providing  
9           an effective date.

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11           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that substance abuse is a  
12           major health problem that affects multiple service systems and  
13           leads to such profoundly disturbing consequences as serious  
14           impairment, chronic addiction, criminal behavior, vehicular  
15           casualties, spiraling health care costs, AIDS, and business  
16           losses and significantly affects the culture, socialization, and  
17           learning ability of children within the state's schools and  
18           educational systems, and

19           WHEREAS, the threat of designer drugs and misbranded  
20           consumer commodities is significant and presents a threat to the  
21           public health, safety, and welfare of Floridians, and

22           WHEREAS, there is no currently accepted medicinal use of  
23           mitragyna speciosa korth, or any compound or derivative thereof,  
24           also known as "Kratom," and

25           WHEREAS, in the absence of the United States Food and Drug  
26           Administration's testing and regulation and with a lack of

27 | knowledge regarding the long-term health effects and addictive  
 28 | properties of mitragyna speciosa korth, and any compound or  
 29 | derivative thereof, there is a need for further research into  
 30 | this substance, NOW, THEREFORE,

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32 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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34 |       Section 1. (1) The Legislature directs the Attorney  
 35 | General's office, in collaboration with the Department of  
 36 | Children and Families' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program  
 37 | Office and the Department of Law Enforcement, to gather  
 38 | information on mitragyna speciosa korth, and any compound or  
 39 | derivative thereof, and make a recommendation as to whether the  
 40 | Legislature or the Attorney General should place mitragyna  
 41 | speciosa korth in a controlled substance schedule within this  
 42 | state.

43 |       (a) In making this recommendation, the Attorney General's  
 44 | office shall consult and gather information from the following:

- 45 |       1. Substance abuse treatment providers.
- 46 |       2. Local law enforcement agencies.
- 47 |       3. Local governments, including those that have banned the  
 48 | substance.
- 49 |       4. The Department of Children and Families.
- 50 |       5. The Department of Law Enforcement.
- 51 |       6. Research from medically accepted journals.
- 52 |       7. Medical doctors who specialize in addiction medicine or

53 who are currently researching the effects of mitragyna speciosa  
54 korth.

55 (b) The Attorney General's office shall gather data on  
56 mitragyna speciosa korth and any compound or derivative thereof,  
57 including:

58 1. Whether the substance has an actual or relative  
59 potential for abuse.

60 2. Any scientific evidence of the substance's  
61 pharmacological effect.

62 3. The current scientific knowledge related to  
63 psychological or physical dependence on the substance.

64 4. The history and current pattern of abuse of the  
65 substance, including the scope, duration, and significance of  
66 abuse.

67 5. What, if any, risk the substance poses to the public  
68 health.

69 (2) The Attorney General's office shall prepare a summary  
70 of its findings and present it to the President of the Senate  
71 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31,  
72 2015.

73 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.