

KRATOM BAN SUMMARY: Overview & Health Risks

(Planned adoption: October 20, 2026 | Effective: November 19, 2026)

- **The Proposal:** Prohibit Kratom use, possession, purchase, growing, manufacture, distribution, and sale throughout Kosciusko, including leaf products, extracts, and specifically named synthetic forms.
- **What is Kratom?** Kratom is a Southeast Asian tree sold as powders, capsules, drinks, and extracts. Its main chemicals act on opioid receptors in the brain. FDA has not approved a Kratom drug.

Serious Health Risks

- **Slowed Breathing:** Chemicals can suppress breathing, which can be fatal. Dose and other substances affect the risk.
- **Dependence & Withdrawal:** Cravings, tolerance, and withdrawal can develop.
- **Seizures & Liver Injury:** FDA warns of both as serious adverse effects.
- **Contamination:** Some products have contained *Salmonella* or concerning levels of heavy metals.
- **Newborn Withdrawal:** Cases have been reported after prolonged exposure to Kratom before birth.
- **Concentrated 7-OH:** These potent opioid products differ from ordinary leaves. Candy-like forms can be mistaken for everyday treats.

Key Data & Statistics

- **8 States Banned:** Currently banned in Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Louisiana, Vermont, Wisconsin, Connecticut, and Tennessee.
- **14 Overdoses (2018–2019):** Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics was notified of 14 Kratom-related overdoses statewide reported by state coroners.
- **Underage Sales:** In an MBN operation, Kratom was purchased from 14 convenient stores using an underage person who was never asked for ID (\$10–\$35 per sample).

KRATOM BAN SUMMARY: Impact, Authority & Implementation

- **1,087 Hospitalizations (2025):** Recorded in annual reports. During 2015–2025, the CDC recorded 233 Kratom-associated deaths (voluntary reports; incomplete U.S. count).
- **Authority to Prohibit:** HB 1077 (2025), Section 4, preserves local authority to adopt Kratom bans (codified at Miss. Code Ann. Section 75-103-7).

- **Other MS Cities with Bans:** Brandon, Carthage, Cleveland, Columbus, Corinth, D'Iberville, Gluckstadt, Hernando, Madison, Oxford, Ridgeland, and Tupelo.

Enforcement & Timeline

- **Penalties:** Violations carry fines up to **\$1,000**, up to **6 months in jail**, or both. Businesses will receive notice after the Board approves the ordinance.
- **Key Dates:**
 - **Planned Board Adoption:** October 20, 2026
 - **Effective Date:** November 19, 2026