



HUDSON VALLEY BOTANICALS

Poughkeepsie, New York | Established 2017

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September 11, 2026

**Hon. Nadia Rajsz, Chairwoman
and Members of the Sullivan County Legislature**

Sullivan County Government Center

100 North Street, Monticello, New York 12701

Re: The kratom question in Sullivan County, before a draft is written.

Dear Chairwoman Rajsz and Members of the Legislature,

I read that the Legislature expects to take up kratom in the coming months. I own Hudson Valley Botanicals, a kratom company in Poughkeepsie that has operated since 2017 and sells across New York, including in Sullivan County. I have a commercial interest in how this is handled and would rather say so before anything else.

I am writing now, before a draft exists, because the choice a county makes at the drafting stage is hard to revisit later.

The products driving concern nationally are concentrated and semi-synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) goods, sold at potencies the plant does not produce. That is the line the DEA drew in July, when it moved to schedule those compounds with thresholds set so natural leaf falls outside the order. It is also the line the State Legislature drew in June: S8925-A passed the Senate 61 to 0 and the Assembly 132 to 0, prohibiting 7-OH above two percent of total alkaloids or one milligram per serving, and awaits the Governor.

Two counties nearby have written local laws on that basis. Ulster, which borders Sullivan, has a bipartisan bill, Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2026, with a public hearing proposed for October 20. Dutchess adopted Resolution 2026136 unanimously on August 10. Both prohibit the concentrates and leave tested leaf available to adults 21 and over, subject to the state age and labeling requirements already in law. The Dutchess text is enclosed.

The practical difference is that a concentration threshold is testable. An independent laboratory can establish 7-OH content and total alkaloid content for any given product, and a county can require that certificate at the point of sale. A prohibition on the plant produces no test results and does not reach a synthetic product manufactured elsewhere and shipped in.

I am not asking the Legislature to take a position today. I only wanted the threshold approach in front of you alongside whatever the county's departments present.

I am glad to answer questions, or to send the Ulster bill if that would be useful.

Respectfully, Scott Urbin | Owner, Hudson Valley Botanicals LLC | Poughkeepsie, NY

Enclosure: Dutchess County Resolution 2026136, filed text