



HUDSON VALLEY BOTANICALS

Poughkeepsie, New York | Established 2017

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August 3, 2026

Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board

Warren County Board of Supervisors, 1340 State Route 9, Lake George, New York 12845

Re: Follow-up to the June comment: four developments since the June 22 discussion

Dear Ms. Allen,

Thank you for forwarding my June comment to the supervisors, the County Attorney, and the County Administrator, and for explaining how the official record works.

Two quick questions if you have a moment. Did the Health Services Committee take up the kratom and nitrous oxide discussion at the July 21 meeting, and if so, are minutes or a summary available? And once the August calendar is posted, is the committee expected to meet again this month?

Below is a brief follow-up to my June comment, with two attachments. I would be grateful if it could be shared with the Health Services Committee and the County Attorney as before.

Dear Chairman Strainer and Members of the Health Services Committee,

I wrote to the committee in June following your June 22 discussion of a possible local law on kratom and nitrous oxide, asking that any measure distinguish natural leaf from concentrated and synthetic 7-OH products. I will not repeat that comment here. I am writing only because four things have changed since then, and one of them is a correction to something I told you.

The correction first. In June I reported that Suffolk County had considered a blanket ban but not adopted one. Suffolk has since acted: in late July its Legislature voted, without a vote against, to adopt a regulatory framework rather than a ban, and the County Executive signed it into law [1]. The adopted measure permits only naturally derived leaf products subject to testing and regulation, while prohibiting synthetic and altered-alkaloid products [2].

Second, the federal government has now drawn the same line. On July 1 the DEA announced temporary Schedule I placement of 7-OH above a set concentration threshold, together with three related synthetic compounds, with the order taking effect this month [3]. The DEA expressly did not reach natural leaf below that threshold. When I wrote in June, this had not yet happened.

Third, Dutchess County. Its County Executive announced what was described as a countywide kratom ban on July 30, but the local law actually filed with the County Legislature, Resolution No. 2026136, prohibits only products containing 7-hydroxymitragynine above two percent of total alkaloids or one milligram per serving [4], the same thresholds as the state bill I described in June. Plain leaf below the threshold is not prohibited. The law also includes prescription and FDA-approval exemptions, assigns enforcement to the county health department, and voids itself automatically once a statewide framework takes effect. It goes before committee on August 6 and the full Legislature on August 10. I have attached the filed text, as it may be useful to the County Attorney as a drafting reference while she completes her review.

Fourth, Washington County adopted a prohibition on kratom sales this summer, Local Law No. 5 of 2026 [5]. So Warren County's neighbors have now gone in both directions, and the committee has the advantage of seeing both models in operation before deciding.

I will add only this. I am a Dutchess County business, and I support the Dutchess law, which I say as someone who sells kratom for a living. A county measure aimed at the concentrates is the right measure, and I would rather live under one than under a prohibition that treats a tested leaf product and a lab-made isolate as the same thing. My position on the nitrous oxide portion is unchanged from June.

I have also attached a one-page backgrounder, with every figure drawn from the government sources cited, in case it is useful to members who have not followed this closely. Both attachments are linked in the sources below as well, in case attachments do not come through. My offer to serve as a practical resource stands, and I would welcome notice of any special meeting on this topic.

Attachments: Dutchess County Resolution No. 2026136 as filed (PDF); Kratom in Context, one-page backgrounder (PDF).

Respectfully,

Scott Urbin

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SOURCES

1. Long Island Life & Politics, July 31, 2026, "County Signs Kratom Restrictions, Tianeptine Ban into Law." lilifepolitics.com/news/long-island-news/county-signs-kratom-restrictions-tianeptine-ban-into-law/
2. Suffolk County Legislature, amended I.R. 1279-2026 (adopted July 2026). www.scnylegislature.us
3. DEA press release, July 1, 2026, "DEA to Temporarily Schedule 7-OH and Related Substances to Protect Public Safety." www.dea.gov/press-releases/2026/07/01/dea-temporarily-schedule-7-oh-and-related-substances-protect-public
4. Dutchess County Legislature, Resolution No. 2026136 as filed. [ConCalAtt/2/Committee%20Resolution%202026136.pdf](#)
5. Washington County, NY, 2026 Local Laws, Local Law No. 5 of 2026. www.washingtoncountyny.gov/1314/2026-Local-Laws