



HUDSON VALLEY BOTANICALS

Poughkeepsie, New York | Established 2017

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September 30, 2026

**Hon. Clay Arsenault, Chairman
and Members of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors**

c/o Laura Abrams, Clerk of the Board, County Office Complex, Route 8, Lake Pleasant, New York 12108

**Re: Proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2026, prohibiting the sale and distribution of kratom; public hearing
proposed for November 5, 2026**

Dear Chairman Arsenault and Members of the Board,

I own Hudson Valley Botanicals, a kratom company in Poughkeepsie since 2017. I do not live in Hamilton County, and I have a financial interest in this law, so I want to say that first.

Proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2026 would prohibit kratom in all forms. I am writing before the November 5 hearing to ask the Board to consider a narrower text: one that prohibits concentrated and synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) products and keeps tested natural leaf lawful for adults 21 and over.

That is the line the State Legislature and the DEA have drawn. In June the State Senate voted 61 to 0 and the Assembly 132 to 0 for S8925-A, which prohibits products with 7-OH above two percent of total alkaloids or one milligram per serving while leaving leaf sales lawful for adults; it awaits delivery to the Governor. In July the DEA moved to place concentrated 7-OH in Schedule I, drawing its line so that natural leaf falls outside it. New York already prohibits sales to anyone under 21, and a state warning-label law takes effect December 19.

Dutchess County faced the same choice this summer. Its County Executive proposed a full ban; the Legislature passed a law aimed at the concentrates instead, and she signed it in September as Local Law No. 6 of 2026. It is not alone. Suffolk County amended a proposed blanket ban into a regulatory law that allows tested leaf, signed July 30. Oswego County adopted 21+ retail rules on September 10 instead of a ban, and Ulster County has a bill pending on the same limits as Dutchess. The Dutchess text is enclosed with a reference sheet; the County Attorney can adapt it section for section, and I can send it in Word.

A concentration limit can be tested where products are sold. A ban on the plant does not reach synthetic products made elsewhere and shipped in, and it moves buyers online, often to sellers who check no ages and test nothing.

My own products are natural leaf only. Every batch is tested by an independent laboratory, with the results published, and I block shipments to any jurisdiction that prohibits kratom, as I would in Hamilton County.

I would be grateful if this letter could be shared with the Human Services Committee and the County Attorney, and included with the written comments for the November 5 hearing.

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

Enclosures: Reference sheet on Dutchess County Local Law No. 6 of 2026; Dutchess County Resolution 2026136, text as introduced (passed August 10, 2026 and signed as Local Law No. 6 of 2026)