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HART Statement on the End of Missouri's 2025 Legislative Session

The Illinois General Assembly ended its 2025 session without passing legislation to restrict access to kratom or 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH). Jeff Smith, the National Policy Director of the Holistic Alternative Recovery Trust (HART), issued the following statement:

"HART applauds the Missouri General Assembly for choosing to preserve access to 7-OH, which thousands of Missourians rely on to manage chronic pain and support their recovery from opioid addiction. We're grateful that this safe and effective tool remains accessible to those who need it most, especially in rural and underserved communities, where healthcare is often limited or prohibitively expensive.

"7-OH, short for 7-hydroxymitragynine, is a naturally occurring compound derived from the kratom plant. Despite persistent misinformation, the fact is that 7-OH is nontoxic; after over 500 million doses nationally, not a single fatal overdose has been attributed to it. Since it became widely available in late 2023, fentanyl overdose fatalities have [fallen 27% year-over-year](#), according to the Centers for Disease Control. In the midst of an ongoing opioid crisis, Missouri is right to keep every proven harm reduction option on the table.

"At the same time, we are disappointed that a promising regulatory proposal introduced by Representative Tricia Barnes did not advance. Her bill would have established basic age restrictions, labeling requirements, and product standards for kratom and 7-OH. It would have provided a reasonable and evidence-based foundation for bringing clarity and accountability to Missouri's kratom market. That kind of approach is exactly what Missouri needs.

"Now, with the session behind us, Missouri has the chance to lead with responsible regulation grounded in science, rather than fear, misdirection, or political pressure. That means clear standards for labeling, safety, and access that will allow law-abiding businesses to sell these products while holding scammers and bad actors accountable.

"HART is eager to cooperate with lawmakers, regulators, and public health experts to craft policy that protects consumers and preserves safe and legal access. Missouri has led on cannabis reform. It can do the same with 7-OH.



“Session is over. But the work has only just begun.”