



OFFICE OF  
**THE MAYOR**

February 19, 2026

Dear Members of the General Assembly,

As Mayor of Richmond, a pediatrician, and a public health physician, I support the GA's work to address the growing concern and emerging health issue of unregulated Kratom. Many of our neighbors here in Richmond and across the Commonwealth aren't aware that Kratom is addictive, that it is unregulated, and that it can cause harm. I support taking action to protect consumers and families and appreciate the GA's work to consider measures that can ensure our residents, especially youth, are safeguarded. Together, we must prioritize public health and safety.

Danny TK Avula, MD, MPH  
Mayor  
City of Richmond