

Executive Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 17, 2026
3:00 pm PT/ 4:00 pm MT
Virtual via Teams (see details below)

Presiding: President Commissioner Tom Lamar

Agenda:

Virtual Roll call.....President Lamar

- Attendees:

- o D1: ~~Erik Ketner, Thomas Fletcher,~~Christine Cummer
- o D2: Kayla Sprenger, Tom Lamar
- o D3: Nikki Zogg, Jennifer Riebe
- o D4: Russ Duke, Betty Ann Nettleton
- o D5: Logan Hudson, Bob Kunau
- o D6: Maggie Mann, Vaughn Rasmussen
- o D7: James Corbett, ~~Brent Mendenhall,~~ Jon Walker (back-up for Brent)
- o Other Attendees: Mike Kane, Kelli Brassfield

Updates on Legislation..... Mike Kane

- **SB1282: Kratom:** Discussion on kratom and our support of the bill. Would like to increase age to 21 but if that's not possible we support.
- **SB1283: Direct Consumer Foods:** This is a big big bill. Going to meet with Lakey to try and get some adjustments made.
- **SB1314: DHW BH Boards:** Not a bill that will impact PHDs directly, so we will stay out of it.

Updates on Legislation..... Kelli Brassfield

- **HB555: Solid Waste:** This passed the house site unanimously, headed to senate.
- **SB1277, 1278, 1279, 1280:** 3 of the 4 died in committee, 4th still yet to be heard.

Position Statement on Kratom (18 or 21)Nikki Zogg

- Group prefers 21 as the recommended age restriction but bill as is at 18 is better than nothing.

Adjourn

Next Virtual Meeting: February 24, 2026 3PT/4MT

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Policy Position Statement: Raising the Minimum Age for Kratom Access to 21 in Idaho

The Idaho Association of District Boards of Health supports raising the minimum legal age for

purchasing and using kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) products to **21 years of age** to protect the health and safety of Idahoans—especially youth.

Kratom is an unregulated, widely accessible substance in Idaho that interacts with the same brain receptors as opioids, posing risks of **addiction, dependence, and serious adverse health effects**, including hepatotoxicity, seizures, and hallucinations. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued multiple warnings regarding kratom’s risks and, as of July 2025, has taken steps to restrict 7-hydroxymitragynine, a concentrated and more potent derivative.

Several states—including Alabama, Arkansas, and Louisiana—have already prohibited kratom due to increasing public health concerns. With no statewide safeguards currently in place, Idaho’s youth have unrestricted access to a substance with known addictive properties and documented harmful outcomes.

Raising the minimum age to 21 is a practical, preventative measure that aligns with Idaho’s commitment to protecting young people, reduces early exposure to addictive substances, and supports healthier communities across the state.

The Idaho Association of District Boards of Health stands ready to support statewide efforts to enact this policy and assist in its implementation.