

SUE MYRICK

9TH DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

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November 9, 2010

The Honorable Eric Holder  
United States Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Holder:

I write to express my concern over the increased use of "Spice" or "K2," a synthetic form of marijuana sold in many tobacco stores. While its potential side effects are largely unknown, the drug's purpose is to mimic the effects of marijuana. Primarily manufactured in China and Korea, K2 is sold as incense. It mixes herbs and spices and is then sprayed with a chemical compound similar to THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. It is my understanding that users roll it up into cigarettes or smoke it from a pipe.

The growing popularity of this substance has led a number of States and municipalities to ban its sale. Similarly, several military installations have banned personnel from the using or possessing K2.

Given the unknown health risks associated with this new drug, I ask that you to use any of your authorities – including adding this compound to the schedule of controlled substances – to prevent the distribution of this product. I also ask that you provide me with information about ways in which Congress can help the Department of Justice regulate this potentially dangerous product.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sue Myrick  
Member of Congress

Cc: John Conyers, Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary  
Cc: Lamar Smith, Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary