
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2030 (Lowenthal) - Dietary supplements for weight loss and over-the-counter diet pills

Version: July 2, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: HEALTH 9 - 0, JUD. 11 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 2030 would prohibit a person from selling, offering to sell, or giving away as either a retail or wholesale promotion, an over-the-counter diet pill or dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building to any person in this state under 18 years of age, as specified.

Fiscal Impact:

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Department of Justice indicate no fiscal impact to the departments.
- Unknown, potential workload costs to the courts related to civil action filings (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to increase the amount appropriated for trial court operations.

Background: California's Sherman Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law provides broad authority for CDPH to enforce food safety requirements, including that food is not adulterated, misbranded, or falsely advertised. Food labeling requirements generally adopt federal food labeling laws as the state requirement, including nutrition labeling and allergen labeling, but CDPH is permitted, by regulation, to adopt additional food labeling regulations.

Current state law prohibits any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person to sell, transfer, or otherwise furnish a dietary supplement containing either of the following to a person under 18 years of age:

- A dietary supplement containing an ephedrine group alkaloid; or
- A dietary supplement containing any of the following: androstenediol, androstenedione, androstenedione, norandrostenediol, norandrostenedione, or dehydroepiandrosterone.

In February 2024, CDPH released a summary report on the use of dietary supplements for weight loss, involving academic and medical experts, to develop public policy recommendations on the best way to address this topic. This report summarized policy recommendations from academic and medical experts that participated in the workgroup, but did not make recommendations of its own.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Prohibit a person from selling, offering to sell, or giving away as either a retail or wholesale promotion, an over-the-counter diet pill or dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building to any person in this state under 18 years of age, as specified.
- Provide that the Attorney General, a county counsel, or a city attorney may apply to a court for, and that court must have jurisdiction upon hearing and for cause shown to grant, a temporary or permanent injunction enjoining or restraining any person or entity from violating these provisions; provide that a person who violates these provisions is liable for a civil penalty of no more than \$1,000 for each violation, which may be assessed and recovered in a civil action brought in the name of the people of the State of California by the Attorney General, a county counsel, or a city attorney in any court of competent jurisdiction; and provide that a prevailing plaintiff in an action is entitled to an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs.
- Provide that when determining whether a supplement is "labeled, marketed, or otherwise represented for the purpose of achieving weight loss or muscle building," the court may consider certain factors, as specified.
- Specify that these provisions do not apply to a person under 18 years of age with a prescription for an over-the-counter diet pill or dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building.

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