



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

TEL. (617) 722-2000
DISTRICT. (508) 639-9511
Paul.Heroux@MAhouse.gov

RE: H3471 An Act regulating the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building
DT: 15 September 2015

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Public Health

Thank you for hearing *H3471, An Act regulating the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building* before your committee on September 17th.

This bill would prohibit the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building to persons under the age of 18. It would require that pharmacies keep these products behind the counter. In retail establishments, this bill would require that they post a notice stating the risks of taking dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building, those risks include death. This statute would be enforced with a fine of \$100, \$200, and \$300 based upon number of offenses.

Minors should not have access to these substances. These manufacturers' claims are unregulated by the FDA and often the ingredients used are found to be harmful only after numerous deaths, such as Ephedrine. If a minor is in need of such substances they should be distributed under a doctor or guardian's watch and care. The use of these substances affects a person for a lifetime and should not be used in a still developing body.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H3471, An Act regulating the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux