

OUT OF KIDS' HANDS

HOW AGE LIMITS ON DIET PILL SALES COULD SAVE CALIFORNIA HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS

In California, eating disorders cost the state

\$7.8
BILLION

every year.¹



! Youth are at risk...

Nearly 1 in 10 adolescents have used misleading & potentially harmful over-the-counter (OTC) diet pills in their lifetimes,² while 19% of young men & 7% of young women³ report using muscle-building supplements.

! These products are dangerous...

Due to weak federal oversight, these products have repeatedly been found to be laced with dangerous ingredients, including illegal steroids, pharmaceutical drugs, excessive stimulants & heavy metals,⁴ causing serious risks.⁵⁻¹¹ A rigorous review concluded "the use of natural supplements for weight loss are unlikely to contribute to meaningful weight loss and in some cases may contribute to harm"¹² - including liver & kidney failure.

! The FDA's hands are tied...

By law, the FDA can act only after reports of serious risk or injury,¹¹ warning the public that they are "unable to test and identify all products marketed as dietary supplements" & that "consumers should exercise caution before purchasing any product,"¹³⁻¹⁴ but still no federal action has been taken!

Expert economists say implementation cost of AB 2030 likely to be minimal!¹⁵

Health economists from The Heller School for Social Policy and Management from Brandeis University carried out a study to estimate the cost of implementing a state-level ban on sales of OTC diet pills and muscle-building supplements to minors by gathering data through key informant interviews and public data on state websites.

What they found...

The one-time implementation opportunity cost was estimated to be **only \$5,640 of the FY25 state budget** - so *virtually nothing!*

AB 2030 is likely to amount to a minimal 1-time implementation cost of **virtually nothing!**



These same expert economists also say AB 2030 could save the state hundreds of millions!¹⁵

- Modeled cost-effectiveness of the age-restriction policy vs. current law using two closed cohorts of males & females aged 0-17 years in California.

What they found...

- Their cost-effectiveness study estimated:
 - AB 2030 would prevent over 180,000 eating disorder cases and more than 270,000 other adverse medical events over 30 years.
 - Also it would yield annual healthcare savings of **\$134 million** and annual societal savings of **\$236 million**.

AB 2030 is likely to annually yield **\$134 million** in healthcare & **\$236 million** in societal savings!

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