

NEWS

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Rep. Fine Passes Energy Drink Ban **Out of Committee**

GLENVIEW, IL – State Rep. Laura Fine (D-Glenview) continued her efforts to protect consumers from harmful products earlier this week when she passed House Bill 2379 out of the Human Services Committee.

“As a mom of two teenagers, it is startling to learn about all the side effects associated with the consumption of energy drinks,” said Fine. “In the same way that we protect our children from alcohol or tobacco, this bill will prevent our children from consuming dangerous levels of chemical stimulants.”

This legislation will prohibit the sale of energy drinks, such as 5-Hour Energy, Monster and Red Bull, to children under the age of 18. These drinks can contain large amounts of caffeine in addition to chemical stimulants and herbs. Studies have linked health problems, such as seizures, high blood pressure, irregular heartbeat and potential interaction with medications, to energy drink consumption by teenagers. In the past four years, emergency room visits for people seeking treatment after having an energy drink has more than doubled.

“Children are especially more susceptible to the adverse effects of high doses of caffeine and other stimulants in energy drinks. Children have lower body mass and less tolerance for these compounds compared to a caffeine tolerant adult. Considering the severe and potentially life threatening side effects of energy drinks, our children should not be able to buy these drinks in the same way they buy a bottle of water,” said Fine. “This bill will help protect our children from serious health complications and in some cases death.”

For more information on legislation, contact Rep. Fine’s constituent service office at (847) 998-1717 or RepFine@gmail.com.

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