

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 9 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Roblan, Whisnant, Buckley
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Derrick Olsen, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/09

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits school district employees, contractors and volunteers from selling, marketing, distributing, endorsing or suggesting anabolic steroid or performance-enhancing substances to students. Directs Department of Education and school districts to include information on anabolic steroids and performance-enhancing substances in health and physical education curricula. Requires certain school district employees to receive training on identifying components of anabolic steroid abuse and use and prevention strategies for use of performance-enhancing substances. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Pressure on students to perform and become bigger/faster/stronger
- School district employee definition in bill includes volunteers
- Educational training requirement for coaches and athletic directors
- Bill does not ban performance-enhancing substances
- Bill does not apply to parents providing performance-enhancing substances to their own children outside of time when parent is acting as volunteer for school district
- Bill does not apply to medicine prescribed by a doctor
- ATHENA and ATLAS education/prevention programs
- Substances vs. supplements
- Regulation or lack thereof of food supplement industry by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Anabolic androgenic steroids are synthetic chemicals based on the structure and pharmacology of testosterone originally developed in the 1930's to help rebuild body tissue and prevent breakdown of tissue in individuals suffering from debilitating diseases. They promote the growth of skeletal muscle and the development of male sexual characteristics, in addition to other effects. Their popularity with athletes exists due to the muscle development and physical performance enhancements they provide. Abuse of anabolic steroids can result in increased risk of heart disease, liver cancer, hypertension, elevated cholesterol, depression, stunted growth, and eating disorders as well as episodes of hostility and aggression. Anabolic steroids are typically available only by prescription.

The 2003 Monitoring the Future Study conducted by the University of Michigan indicated that approximately 3.5% of American high school students have used illegal anabolic steroids at least once by grade 12. The same study found that 45% of all 12th graders did not believe taking steroids posed a great risk.

The Senate Education and General Government Committee gave SB 517-A a Do Pass as Amended recommendation with a 4-0-1 vote, and it passed the Senate 27-0-3.

5/11/2007 4:14:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.