

1997 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1558

Offered January 8, 1997

Prefiled August 5, 1996

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-248.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to illegal stimulants including ephedrine and ephedra.*

Patrons—Hamilton and Diamonstein

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-248.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§18.2-248.5. Illegal stimulants and steroids; penalty.

A. Except as authorized in the Drug Control Act (§ 54.1-3400 et seq.), Chapter 34 of Title 54.1, it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly manufacture, sell, give, distribute or possess with intent to manufacture, sell, give or distribute any anabolic steroid.

A violation of *this* subsection A shall be punishable by a term of imprisonment of not less than one year nor more than ten years or, in the discretion of the jury or the court trying the case without a jury, confinement in jail for not more than twelve months or a fine of not more than \$20,000, either or both.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly sell or otherwise distribute, without prescription, to a minor any pill, capsule, *liquid, powder* or tablet containing any combination of caffeine and ephedrine sulfate, *or any herbal stimulant, natural or synthetic, containing ephedrine, ephedra, ephedra extract, ephedra herb powder, ephedra sinica, Chinese ephedra, epitonin, ma huang, or ma huang extract.*

A violation of this subsection B shall be punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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