



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**SEP 29 2022**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1341 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit retail establishments from selling, transferring, or providing, dietary supplements for weight loss or over-the-counter diet pills to anyone under 18 years of age without a prescription, or valid ID prior to purchasing. The bill would also require the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to establish a list of dietary supplements that would be subject to the bill.

I commend the work of the author as this bill raises an important public health issue related to the safety of diet or weight loss pills that can result in injury. However, dietary supplements for weight loss are not considered drugs and, therefore, this measure would require CDPH to evaluate every individual weight loss and dietary supplement product for safety, which is beyond the scope of the department's capabilities.

Recognizing the need to educate and protect the public—particularly California's youth—of the dangers of using dietary supplements for weight loss, I am directing CDPH to form a workgroup, inclusive of academic and medical experts, that would develop public policy recommendations on the best way to address this important public health challenge.

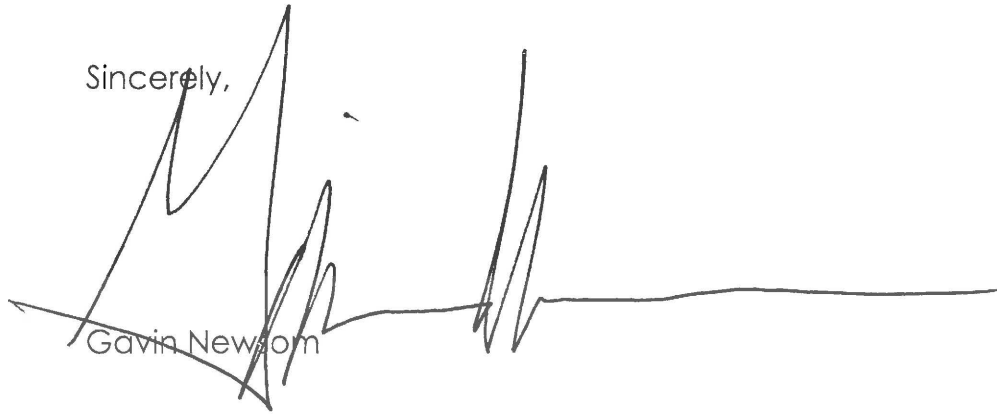
CDPH is prepared to work with the legislature next session to address sales age limits and other potential legislative actions to address the responsible sale of dietary supplements for weight loss and over-the-counter diet pills that do not



require the state to undertake lengthy and costly pharmacological studies on the many supplements on the market today.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom