



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**Substitute Bill No. 6185**



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY DRINKS BY CHILDREN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this section,  
2 (1) "energy drink" means a soft drink that contains (A) not less than  
3 eighty milligrams of caffeine per nine fluid ounces, and (B)  
4 methylxanthines, B vitamins, one or more herbal ingredients or an  
5 ingredient labeled "energy blend", and (2) "social media" has the same  
6 meaning as provided in section 9-601 of the general statutes.

7 (b) There is established a working group to (1) study the (A) medical  
8 risks associated with energy drink consumption by children, and (B)  
9 anticipated effects of a prohibition on the sale of energy drinks to  
10 children on (i) the state-wide sale of energy drinks, and (ii) public health,  
11 and (2) make recommendations for (A) a public awareness campaign  
12 concerning such risks that includes, but is not limited to, a video  
13 recording for publication or broadcast on television and social media,  
14 (B) notice to be posted at the point of sale of energy drinks in retail  
15 establishments alerting consumers to such risks, and (C) a one-page  
16 document explaining such risks.

17 (c) The working group shall include, but need not be limited to, the  
18 following members, who shall be selected jointly by the Commissioners  
19 of Public Health and Consumer Protection: (1) The chairpersons and

20 ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General  
21 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and public  
22 health, (2) an individual with expertise in advertising and marketing, (3)  
23 a parent or guardian of a child who experienced adverse health  
24 conditions or died due to the consumption of energy drinks, (4) a  
25 pediatric cardiologist, (5) a representative of a state-wide chapter of a  
26 national association of pediatricians, (6) a representative of a state-wide  
27 governing body for interscholastic athletic activities, (7) a representative  
28 of the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, (8) a representative of a  
29 state-wide association of food retailers, wholesalers, distributors and  
30 service providers, (9) a representative of a manufacturer of energy  
31 drinks, (10) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
32 designee, and (11) a licensed athletic trainer. The Commissioner of  
33 Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as  
34 chairperson of the working group. The administrative staff of the joint  
35 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
36 matters relating to children shall serve as administrative staff of the  
37 working group.

38 (d) Not later than November 1, 2025, the chairperson of the working  
39 group shall submit a report on the working group's study and  
40 recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General  
41 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, public  
42 health and consumer protection in accordance with the provisions of  
43 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

44 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
45 section, "energy drink" means a soft drink that contains (1) not less than  
46 eighty milligrams of caffeine per nine fluid ounces, and (2)  
47 methylxanthines, B vitamins, one or more herbal ingredients or an  
48 ingredient labeled "energy blend".

49 (b) Not later than December 1, 2025, the Department of Consumer  
50 Protection shall develop a notice alerting consumers to the medical risks  
51 associated with energy drink consumption by children and make a copy  
52 of such notice available on the department's Internet web site. Such

53 notice shall incorporate the recommendations submitted by the working  
54 group established pursuant to section 1 of this act.

55 (c) On and after January 1, 2026, each individual, firm, fiduciary,  
56 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, trust or association  
57 engaged in the business of selling energy drinks to retail consumers in  
58 the state shall post a copy of the notice developed pursuant to subsection  
59 (b) of this section in a conspicuous place at the point of sale of such  
60 energy drinks.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

In Section 1(a), the existing subdivision designators were changed to subparagraph designators "(A)" and "(B)" and a new subdivision "(1)" designator and a subdivision "(2)" designator were added for clarity; in Section 1(c), "commissioners, or their designees, shall serve as cochairpersons" was changed to "Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as chairperson" for consistency; and in Section 2(b), the two references to "signage" were changed to "notice" for consistency.

***KID***      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*