



**Support: HB 634 Public Health - Sale of Diet Pills to Minors - Prohibition (Protecting Teenagers From Unregulated Diet Pills)**

2/24/2023

Maryland House of Representatives  
Finance Committee  
Room 231  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Chesapeake Chapter, I am writing to express our support of **HB 634 Public Health - Sale of Diet Pills to Minors - Prohibition (Protecting Teenagers From Unregulated Diet Pills)**.

This bill would prohibit retailers from selling dietary supplements for weight loss, muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills to anyone under the age of 18 without a prescription. Weight loss supplements and pills, and muscle building supplements aren't regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA has also warned the public of the dangers of certain weight loss products, highlighting contaminated pills that have been tainted with dangerous ingredients. The American Academy of Pediatrics has released two reports strongly cautioning against teens using diet pills and muscle-building supplements for any reason. These products can be sold to consumers of any age without restriction, so any child can go to their local grocery store, convenience store, or gym or go online to buy these unsafe products.

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support to **HB 634 Public Health - Sale of Diet Pills to Minors - Prohibition (Protecting Teenagers From Unregulated Diet Pills)** and requests a favorable report.

The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The members of Chesapeake Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners are committed to improving the health and advocating for Maryland's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay J. Ward, the Chesapeake Chapter President at 410-507-3642 or [lindsayjward@hotmail.com](mailto:lindsayjward@hotmail.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lindsay J. Ward".

Lindsay J. Ward CRNP, RN, IBCLC, MSN, BSN  
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner- Pediatric Primary Care



International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNP)  
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*Evgenia Ogordova*

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National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNP)  
Chesapeake Chapter Legislative Chair