

## Anti S1137 DHEA

The Honorable (Senator First/Last Name)

Dear Senator Last Name;

I am writing in opposition to SB 1137, a bill to classify Dehydroepiandrosterone, or DHEA, as an anabolic steroid, and add it to the list of controlled substances. DHEA dietary supplements have been on the market for over 20 years. They are derived from a plant in the wild yam family. DHEA is a naturally occurring hormone that has a proven scientific record of having a wide range of health benefits for older Americans and people with chronic conditions. DHEA may be helpful for such conditions as obesity, cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

DHEA containing supplements are not anabolic steroids. This bill is contrary to the intent of the Anabolic Steroid Control Act (ASCA) enacted last year. In amending the law, during Senate floor debate, it was made clear that with respect to DHEA it was not a controlled substance. Further, that the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is to provide sufficient evidence of illegal abuse among athletes or young people of DHEA supplements before taking action to include it on the list of controlled substances. There has been no evidence presented thus far in this regard. The ASCA passed the Senate last year by Unanimous Consent with this understanding with regard to DHEA supplements.

As one of the 60 million consumers of dietary supplements, and someone who does not take anabolic steroids, I am opposed to this bill. I would appreciate knowing where you stand on this legislation.

Sincerely,