

13-0281

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH & AGING

MOTION

In a recent letter sent to the Food and Drug Administration, United States Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) requested the elimination of loopholes that allow for the sale of energy drinks containing potentially dangerous levels of caffeine as well as other additives. This letter came after the agency announced that it was investigating reports of five deaths that involved consumption of Monster energy drinks.

Although the FDA has stated that allegations linking the consumption of energy drinks to these deaths have not been proven to be true, recent studies have found that several brands of energy drinks contain larger amounts of caffeine than what is listed on their respective labels. Monster energy drinks are listed as containing 240 milligrams of caffeine per 24-ounce can, or seven times the caffeine content of a 12-ounce can of most brands of cola. It should be noted that the FDA caps the amount of caffeine in soda at 0.02%, however there is no cap on the caffeine content of energy drinks.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department be instructed to report with options and recommendations relative to requiring special store shelf storage and/or warning signage for the retail sale of energy drinks, as well as restricting or limiting the consumption of energy drinks by city personnel while on duty. I FURTHER MOVE to request that the County conduct a study similar to other studies on the effects of energy drink consumption performed by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Loma Linda University Medical Center and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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ORIGINAL

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MAR 6 2013