



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2327

dangerous drugs; definition.

Sponsors: Representative Farnsworth

DP	Committee on Judiciary
DPA	Caucus and COW
X	As Transmitted to Governor

OVERVIEW

HB 2327 is an emergency measure that expands the definition of *dangerous drugs* to include specific chemical configurations that typically compose synthetic cannabinoids and bath salts.

HISTORY

Synthetic cannabinoids are chemically engineered substances similar to THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Initially developed for research related to the treatment of pain and the effects of cannabis on the brain, they are increasingly being marketed as a popular alternative to marijuana. Known on the market as “K2” or “spice”, the synthetic cannabinoids are sprayed onto a mixture of herbs and spices. The mixture is currently sold in head shops, tobacco shops, various retail outlets, and over the internet.

A.R.S. §13-3401 currently defines a *dangerous drug* as any material, compound, mixture or preparation that contains hallucinogenic substances, stimulants or depressants with potential for abuse, or anabolic steroids.

A.R.S. §13-3407 specifies the criminal classifications and penalties for the possession, use, administration, acquisition, sale, manufacturing, or transportation of dangerous drugs.

A scheduled drug is one whose use and distribution is tightly controlled because of its abuse potential or risk. In 1979, the Legislature adopted the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, which established a drug scheduling system. The five schedules range from those that possess a high potential for abuse (schedule 1) such as heroin or cocaine, to those that have a low potential for abuse (schedule 5) such as acetaminophen.

PROVISIONS

- Expands the definition of *dangerous drugs* to include specific chemical configurations that compose synthetic cannabinoids and bath salts.
- Amends the list of controlled substances under Schedule I of the Arizona Uniform Controlled Substances Act (A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 27, Article 2) to conform to the additions made in the definition of dangerous drugs under A.R.S. § 13-3401.
- Contains an emergency clause.