Senate

General Assembly

File No. 216

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 227

Senate, March 30, 2026

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. MARONEY of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY OVER-THE-COUNTER DIET PILLS AND SUPPLEMENTS AND PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF PRESCRIBERS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage)* (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building" means a class of dietary supplement that is labeled, marketed or otherwise represented for the purpose of achieving weight loss or muscle building, but shall not include (A) protein powders, (B) protein drinks, and (C) foods marketed as containing protein unless the protein powder, protein drink or food marketed as containing protein contains an ingredient other than protein which would, considered alone, constitute a dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building; and

(2) "Over-the-counter diet pill" means a class of drugs labeled, marketed or otherwise represented for the purpose of achieving weight

loss that are lawfully sold, transferred or furnished over the counter with or without a prescription pursuant to the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq., as amended from time to time, or regulations adopted thereunder.

(b) There is established a task force to study the sale in the state of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills. The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom has expertise in the safety of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and one of whom has expertise in the safety of over-the-counter diet pills;

(2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(7) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's designee;

(8) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee; and

(9) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, who shall serve as chairperson of the task force.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The chairperson of the task force shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2027, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The report shall include, but need not be limited to, research related to the safety of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills by age of users, whether the sale to minors of such supplements or pills should be restricted and best practices in other states for regulation of such supplements or pills.

Sec. 2. Section 20-579a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) As used in this section, "reproductive health care services" and "gender-affirming health care services" have the same meanings as provided in section 52-571m.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not deny the eligibility of an applicant for a license, permit or registration under this chapter based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint, **[**or**]** the imposition of disciplinary action or other adverse action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, **[**or**]** a

commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States or any federal entity that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services. **[**, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was a resident of this state.**]** The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where the underlying conduct of the applicant would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against the applicant under the laws of this state if the applicant had been licensed, permitted or registered in this state and the conduct had occurred in this state.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not impose disciplinary action against any person licensed, permitted or registered pursuant to the provisions of this chapter based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint, **[**or**]** the imposition of disciplinary action or other adverse action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, **[**or**]** a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States or any federal entity that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services. **[**, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was a resident of this state.**]** The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where the underlying conduct of the person licensed, permitted or registered would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against such person under the laws of this state if such person had been licensed, permitted or registered in this state and the conduct had occurred in this state.

Sec. 3. Section 19a-509c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

In a facility licensed pursuant to this chapter, a physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse or licensed practical nurse may, except with respect to an order for schedule II controlled substances, reduce to writing the oral or written order of a prescribing practitioner, as defined in section 20-571, and transmit the order to a pharmacy licensed under sections 20-570 to 20-625, inclusive. Such transmitted order shall contain the name of the prescribing practitioner and shall be treated as a written prescription for purposes of sections 20-570 to 20-625, inclusive, except that, to the extent allowable under federal law, at the prescribing practitioner's request, the written or electronic prescription for drugs related to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, shall include the name and address of the prescribing and dispensing health care practice or facility instead of the name and signature of the prescribing practitioner.

Sec. 4. Section 20-614 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (g) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(NEW) (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section, to the extent allowable under federal law, at the prescribing practitioner's request, the written or electronic prescription for drugs related to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, shall include the name and address of the prescribing and dispensing health care practice or facility instead of the name and signature of the prescribing practitioner.

Sec. 5. Section 20-617 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (d) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(NEW) (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section, to the extent allowable under federal law, at the prescribing practitioner's written, electronic or verbal request to the

dispensing pharmacy, the dispensed label of each prescription drug that is not a controlled substance and relates to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, shall include the name and address of the prescribing and dispensing health care practice or facility instead of the name of the prescribing practitioner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*from passage*	New section
Sec. 2	*October 1, 2026*	20-579a
Sec. 3	*October 1, 2026*	19a-509c
Sec. 4	*October 1, 2026*	20-614(g)
Sec. 5	*October 1, 2026*	20-617(d)

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study the sale of dietary supplements resulting in no fiscal impact to the state because the task force has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The bill also makes various changes to pharmacy statutes concerning reproductive and gender-affirming health care resulting in no fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 227

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY OVER-THE-COUNTER DIET PILLS AND SUPPLEMENTS AND PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF PRESCRIBERS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a task force to study the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills (§ 1).

It also expands current law that prohibits the Department of Consumer Protection and the Commission on Pharmacy from denying a pharmacy-related license, permit, or registration, or imposing discipline on the holder of such a pharmacy-related credential, because of a pending or imposed disciplinary action or unresolved complaint in another U.S. state or jurisdiction related to reproductive and gender-affirming health care that is allowed in Connecticut. Specifically, it applies these prohibitions to (1) other types of adverse actions taken in another jurisdiction for these reasons and (2) any of these actions taken by a federal entity (§ 2).

Additionally, to the extent permitted by federal law, the bill requires a prescription order for a drug related to reproductive health or gender-affirming health care, at the prescriber's request, to include the prescribing and dispensing practice's or facility's name and address instead of the prescriber's name and signature. This same provision applies to the dispensed label for one of these drugs unless it is a controlled substance (§§ 3-5).

By law, "reproductive health care services" include medical, surgical, counseling, and referral services relating to the human reproductive

system. "Gender-affirming health care services" generally are supplies, care and services of a medical, behavioral health, mental health, surgical, psychiatric, therapeutic, diagnostic, preventative, rehabilitative, or supportive nature, including medication for treating gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. It does not include conversion therapy (CGS § 52-571m).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the provisions on the task force take effect upon passage.

§ 1 — TASK FORCE

The bill establishes an 11-person task force to study the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills. The study must address:

1. dietary supplements labeled, marketed, or represented as achieving weight loss or muscle building, but not (a) protein powders or drinks or (b) foods marketed as having protein, unless the powder, food, or drink has another ingredient that on its own is a dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building, and

2. over-the-counter diet pills that are (a) drugs labeled, marketed, or represented as achieving weight loss or muscle building and (b) available over the counter with or without a prescription under federal law.

The bill requires the task force to consist of:

1. the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity's executive director, who serves as task force chairperson;

2. the commissioners of consumer protection and public health, or their designees;

3. two members appointed by the House speaker, one with expertise in the safety of applicable dietary supplements and one

with expertise in the safety of applicable over-the-counter pills;

4. two members appointed by the Senate president pro tempore; and

5. one each appointed by the House and Senate majority and minority leaders.

The bill allows appointed members to be legislators, requires appointments to be made within 30 days after the bill's passage, and directs the appointing authorities to fill vacancies.

The chairperson must schedule and hold the first meeting within 60 days after the bill's passage, and the General Law Committee administrative staff serves as the task force's administrative staff.

The bill requires the task force to report to the General Law Committee by January 1, 2027. The report must include research on the safety of these items by user age, whether their sale to minors should be restricted, and other states' best practices for regulating them.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 19 Nay 2 (03/16/2026)