

February 15, 2015

Stephen B. Evans, Ph.D., M.D.
Lorain County Coroner
5 South Main Street
Bank Bldg., Suite 304
Oberlin, OH 44074

To: Chairman John Eklund

Re: SB7, Prohibition of the Sale of Pure Caffeine Powder

As the Lorain County Coroner, I was involved in the investigation of the recent caffeine over-dose death of a teenager in Lorain County. During the investigation I was shocked to find that powdered caffeine, in concentrated and potentially lethal form, was readily available over the internet. The powder is so concentrated that 1 tsp. is equivalent to 16 NoDoz tablets or 32 cups of coffee. It would take a chemist to accurately measure a safe dose of this powder.

Caffeine is the world's most widely used/abused psychoactive drug, but unlike most psychoactive drugs, it is legal and unregulated. To allow this to continue will lead to even more abuse and potential tragedies.

I whole heartedly support SB7 and its effort to control the sale of pure caffeine products.

Sincerely,

Stephen B. Evans, Ph.D., M.D.
Lorain County Coroner