



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 6470

LCO No. 3421

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE LABELING OF POISONOUS PLANTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) No retailer may sell or
2 offer to sell a plant containing a poisonous substance unless the plant
3 is affixed with a label containing a clear and conspicuous warning
4 statement that the plant contains a poisonous substance. For the
5 purposes of this section, "poisonous" means having the capacity to
6 produce personal injury or illness to a human being or domestic
7 animal through ingestion, inhalation or absorption through any body
8 surface. The provisions of this section shall not apply to substances
9 that are not inherently poisonous but become so if ingested in
10 excessive amounts.

11 (b) A warning statement shall be placed in a conspicuous place on
12 the plant or on the container in which the plant is planted and shall
13 consist of the following printed in letters of not less than ten-point
14 type: "CAUTION - THIS PLANT CONTAINS A POISONOUS
15 SUBSTANCE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND PETS.". If
16 placed on the plant container, such printing shall be in a conspicuous
17 color contrasting with other printing appearing on the container.

18 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may seize and
19 remove for safe keeping plants that are offered for sale by a retailer in
20 violation of this section. When such retailer from whom the
21 commissioner has seized such plants furnishes assurance satisfactory
22 to the commissioner of compliance with the provisions of this section,
23 the commissioner may release the plants to the retailer.

24 (d) Any retailer who violates the provisions of this section shall be
25 fined not more than five hundred dollars for each violation.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that poisonous plants sold by retailers contain warning labels.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]