



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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**SCHEDULE 1 CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES: ADD *FLUNITRAZEPAM***

**House Bill 6067
Sponsor: Rep. Eric Bush
Committee: Health Policy**

Complete to 9-18-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 6067 AS INTRODUCED 9-12-96

House Bill 6067 would amend the Public Health Code to add a drug called *flunitrazepam*, a.k.a. Rohypnol to the list of schedule I controlled substances. Currently, the drug *flunitrazepam* is administratively classified as a schedule IV drug. The bill would list *flunitrazepam* in a class of substances that have a depressant effect on the central nervous system and would include Rohypnol, methaqualone, Quaalude, and mecloqualone as trade or other names.

Schedule IV drugs are considered to have a low potential for abuse or have a currently accepted medical use and as such carry lower penalties for the manufacture or possession with intent to deliver of such substances. The current punishment for manufacture or possession with intent to deliver a schedule IV drug up to four years imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$2,000. Placing *flunitrazepam* on the list of schedule I controlled substances would make the penalty for manufacture or possession of the drug imprisonment for up to 7 years, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

(*Flunitrazepam/Rohypnol* is a potent hypno-sedative member of the *benzodiazepine* class of drugs, of which Valium is the most familiar. However, Rohypnol is 7 - 20 times more potent than Valium. It is tasteless, colorless and odorless and dissolves quickly in liquids. It has been implicated in an increasing number of rapes across the country, where it has been used incapacitate victims. As a result, the drug has become known in some circles as the "date-rape drug.")

The bill would also remove the substance 2-methylamino-1-phenylpropan-1-one, a.k.a. CAT, methcathinone, or ephedrone, from the list of hallucinogenic substances and places it in a new category for substances that have a stimulant effect on the central nervous system. Finally, the bill would also make some technical changes to make the references to certain drugs clearer by changing the manner in which they are listed.

Analyst: W. Flory

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.