

California Proposition 65

About California Proposition 65

Proposition 65, officially the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, is a law that requires warnings be provided to California consumers when they might be exposed to chemicals identified by California as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. The warnings are intended to help California consumers make informed decisions about their exposures to these chemicals from the products they use. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) administers the Proposition 65 program and publishes the list of chemicals, which includes more than 850 entries. In August 2016, OEHHA adopted new regulations, effective on August 30, 2018, which change the information required in Proposition 65 warnings.

The warning does not mean that a product will cause any harm. A Proposition 65 warning does not mean a product is in violation of any product-safety standards or requirements. The California government has clarified that “the fact that a product bears a Proposition 65 warning does not mean by itself that the product is unsafe.” The government has also explained, “You could think of Proposition 65 more as a ‘right to know’ law than a pure product safety law.” <https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/general-info/proposition-65-plain-language>

Additional Information about Proposition 65

For background on the new Proposition 65 warnings, see <https://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/new-proposition-65-warnings>.

Proposition 65 and its regulations are posted at <https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/law/proposition-65-law-and-regulations>.

For a complete list of chemicals visit <https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/proposition-65-list>.



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