

SENATE, No. 4864

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 22, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator M. TERESA RUIZ
District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires retailers to lock up or place bath salts behind counter.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the sale of bath salts and supplementing
2 P.L.1960, c.39.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. As used in this section:

8 “Bath salt” is a crystalline or flaked substance used to perfume
9 or soften bathwater.

10 “Under control” means in a locked display case or behind the
11 counter and accessible only to an employee.

12 b. A retail establishment shall only display bath salts for sale in
13 an area under control of the retailer or other employee of the
14 establishment.

15 c. A person in violation of this section shall be subject to a
16 written warning for a first offense. A subsequent violation of this
17 section is an unlawful practice pursuant to P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1
18 et seq.).

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20 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
21 next following enactment, except that the Director of Consumer
22 Affairs may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance
23 as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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28 This bill requires retailers to limit consumer accessibility of bath
29 salts.

30 Under the bill, a bath salt is defined as a crystalline or flaked
31 substance used to perfume or soften bathwater. The bill requires a
32 retailer to keep bath salts in a locked display case or behind the
33 counter, accessible only to an employee.

34 A first violation of the bill’s provisions subjects the offender to a
35 written warning. A subsequent violation would be an unlawful
36 practice under the consumer fraud act, P.L.1960, c.39 (C.56:8-1 et
37 seq.), which is punishable by a monetary penalty of not more than
38 \$10,000 for a first offense and not more than \$20,000 for any
39 subsequent offense. Additionally, a violation can result in a cease
40 and desist order issued by the Attorney General, the assessment of
41 punitive damages, and the awarding of treble damages and costs to
42 the injured party.

43 According to the sponsor, the intent of this bill is to keep bath
44 salts out of reach of minors who may misuse them.