

**From:** [Michael Tierra](#)  
**To:** [P65Public Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Regulation of Goldenseal and aloe latex  
**Date:** Friday, May 01, 2015 8:34:54 AM

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Dear Ones,

Regarding the proposal and intent of the your office to regulate aloe vera whole-leaf extract and goldenseal root powder as "chemicals "known to the state to cause cancer" under proposition 65 (the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986), I respect that the intent is for you to all to execute the responsibilities of your office as fairly and equitably as possible. Given the obvious flaws in the stated research supporting such an action and the hardship such regulations would impose on industry as well as the public, I think such a regulation would impose undo hardship and is unwarranted.

As you must know all substances and including food and water are potentially toxic if used inappropriately and it is a well known epithet the "the dose is in the poison." For instance tomatine in tomatoes, psoralens in celery or glycoalkaloids in potatoes are all naturally occurring toxic compounds found in these foods. (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3153292/>).

In the cases of proposition 65 the problem involves just that: inordinate amounts of aloe latex or goldenseal fed to rats that resulted in their contracting cancer. As I understand it, the amount of goldenseal fed to said rats to the equivalent to about a pound of the herb ingested by a human per week extended over many weeks.

This is not a problem with intrinsic toxicity but inordinate 'dose-specific' toxicity due misapplication or miscalculation of research.

These herbs are considered by many health providers and the public to be among the most valuable herbal food supplements on the market. Again it would be a hardship for people to be denied access to them or if required to label them as potentially carcinogenic would dissuade people from their well known health benefits.

There's no regulation on the possible toxicity of innumerable other food substances when used in reasonable doses and amounts, it is unfair and represents a hardship to level such regulations on foods i.e. protected for sale under the DSHEA (Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994) based on such flawed studies.

I urge you all to reconsider implication the regulation of these herbs.

Dr. Michael Tierra L.Ac, Doctor of oriental medicine, founder of the American Herbalists Guild.