



OREGON AFSCME

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March 20, 2013

Dear Chair Greenlick and members of the House Committee on Health Care,

AFSCME Council 75 urges your support of House Bill 3162. AFSCME represents about 24,000 workers state wide, including licensed in-home child care, health care professionals and environmental specialists and our members in these fields believe this bill is a good step in keeping toxins out of our environment and learning what chemicals are in the products that are made for our children.

Having disclosure of the chemicals in products made for children will help public health officials better understand if and how chemicals like formaldehyde, bisphenol A, phthalates, arsenic, cadmium and benzene are contributing to increases in asthma, obesity and other issues seen on the rise in our younger populations. The provisions in the bill will allow for parents and child care providers to make more informed choices when buying products for their homes to keep the children in their care healthier and safer. The bill will also help hold manufacturers to a higher standard by having them disclose toxic chemicals and giving them an opportunity to find safer alternatives.

Keep our children safe from exposure to toxins in products that are made to enhance their learning or provide fun in their lives should be a top priority for all of us. AFSCME Council 75 hopes that you join us in supporting us in these efforts by passing HB 3162.

We welcome any continued discussion on this.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eva Rippeteau".

Eva Rippeteau

AFSCME Council 75 Political Coordinator