

# Oregon AFSCME Council 75

6025 E. Burnside, Portland OR 97211

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee;

AFSCME Council 75 supports SB 1569 and urges you to support it as well. AFSCME Council 75 represents about 24,000 working people in the state of Oregon including childcare provider, public health workers and environment protection specialist. We believe this bill is an important step in protecting children's health, keeping parents informed and keeping toxics out of the environment. Without information it is impossible for parents and care givers to make good decisions.

There is a need to better understand how these chemicals interact with children and the long term effects. It is important for the public health of our community to know this information. The right approach is the one taken in this bill to study the information and report back. There is also a need to give parents and childcare providers more information when they are buying products and as we have seen recently there is little information about the effects of chemicals and anything would be valuable. The bill will also help hold manufactures to a higher standard by having them disclose toxic chemicals and giving them the opportunity to find safer alternatives.

Keeping children safe from toxics especially in products that are designed to be fun or for learning is a priority for AFSCME and we believe it should be in everyone's interest to protect children and inform the public. Please support SB 1569.

Submitted by,

Joe Baessler  
Political Director  
Oregon AFSCME