



To: Oregon State Senate Health Care Committee  
From: Sandy Giffin,  
Director, Oregon Poison Center,  
Oregon Health and Science University

RE: Support SB1569

Dear Chair Monnes-Anderson and members of the committee,

My name is Sandy Giffin. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Oregon Poison Center and Oregon Health and Science University in support of SB 1569, the Toxics Disclosure for Healthy Kids Act.

Children learn about the environment through their senses, which often means accidental exposures to toxic substances. Last year, the nurses and physicians at the Oregon Poison Center provided care for over 18,000 Oregon children who had experienced a poisoning or toxic exposure. While we have a great deal of knowledge about managing patients who have had a single exposure to a potentially toxic substance, identification of potential long term health effects of chronic, and possibly repeated exposure to toxic substances is much more difficult. The most frequent substances of exposure for children are substances and products that are readily available in their environment, which most often is their home. Chemicals known to be carcinogens and hormone disruptors – known as “chemicals of concern” – are found in our air, dust, water – even the human body. Infants and children are at greatest risk of lasting harm from exposure.

Even as state agencies work to reduce toxic chemicals in our environment, the same toxics show up in consumer products, including products made specifically for children. These toxics include formaldehyde in fabric, bisphenol A in plastics, phthalates in personal care products, and more.

SB 1569 would take the important first step of establishing an efficient system to identify, collect and share information about toxics when they exist in children’s products sold in Oregon.

Specifically, SB 1569 would: 1) create a science-based list of “High Priority Chemicals of Concern For Children’s Health” list; 2) require manufacturers to disclose and notify Oregon public health officials if their children’s product contains chemicals of concern; and 3) asks manufacturers to develop plans to replace harmful chemicals with safer alternatives. This information would be helpful to the Poison Center and be a step forward in helping protect children from toxins.

I encourage your support for this important legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please contact me if you have any questions at \*\*\*-\*\*\*-\*\*\*.

Sincerely,  
Sandy