

**PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

**REVENUE: No revenue impact (-A10)****FISCAL: No fiscal impact (-A10)****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:**

Ayes, 50; Nays, 1--Post

**Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 6/1

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Phases in prohibition on manufacture and sale of personal care products and over-the-counter drugs that contain synthetic plastic microbeads. As of January 1, 2018, prohibits manufacture for sale of personal care product, other than over-the-counter drug, that contains synthetic plastic microbeads. As of January 1, 2019, prohibits manufacture or accepting for sale, of personal care product that contains synthetic plastic microbeads; prohibits manufacture for sale, may accept for sale, over-the-counter drug that contains synthetic plastic microbeads. As of January 1, 2020, prohibits manufacture of or accepting for sale personal care products or over-the-counter drugs that contain synthetic plastic microbeads. Specifies violation is unlawful trade practice.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** (Proposed –A8 Amendment) Amends definition of synthetic plastic microbeads to clarify that it is not capable of breaking down completely in accordance with certain standards.

(Proposed -A9 Amendment) As of January 1, 2017, prohibits manufacture or accepting for sale, of personal care product that contains synthetic plastic microbeads; prohibits manufacture for sale, may accept for sale, over-the-counter drug that contains synthetic plastic microbeads. As of January 1, 2018, prohibits manufacture of or accepting for sale personal care products or over-the-counter drugs that contain synthetic plastic microbeads.

(Proposed –A10 Amendment) Removes definition of plastic. Replaces references of synthetic plastic microbeads with plastic microbeads.

(Proposed –A11 Amendment) Removes definition of plastic. Replaces references of synthetic plastic microbeads with plastic microbeads. Removes prohibition against local government or governmental subdivision from enacting rule, regulation or resolution concerning plastic microbeads in personal care products or over-the-counter drugs that differ from Act, effective January 1, 2020

(Proposed –A12 Amendment) Removes prohibition against local government or governmental subdivision from enacting rule, regulation or resolution concerning plastic microbeads in personal care products or over-the-counter drugs that differ from Act, effective January 1, 2020

**BACKGROUND:** Synthetic plastic microbeads are commonly used in exfoliating creams, soaps, toothpastes, and other personal care products. The microbeads are made of polyethylene or polypropylene and range in size from 0.0004 to 1.24 mm, making them too small to be filtered out by wastewater treatment plants. Once

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***This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.***

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in the water, microbeads, like other plastics, can absorb persistent chemicals found in waterways. In 2014, Illinois became the first state to enact a ban on the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing synthetic plastic microbeads. The Illinois law requires that the beads be removed from manufacturing by the end of 2018 and the products containing beads may no longer be sold starting at the end of 2019.

House Bill 3478A would phase in a ban on the manufacture and sale of personal care products and over-the-counter drugs that contain synthetic plastic microbeads.