

FROM THE DESK OF REP. BARBARA SMITH WARNER:

*Barbara Smith Warner*



## VOTE YES ON SENATE BILL 478

**Oregon Education Association, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union Local 555, and SEIU Local 503 urge your support of SB 478.** This bill is a critical step forward for Oregon: it ensures our public health authorities can understand the full scope of hazards posed by multiple chemicals in myriad products that make up children's home, play and school environments, and it ensures that manufacturers utilize their ingenuity to develop safer products.

### **SB 478 will:**

- Establish a science-based list of chemicals of greatest concern to children, our most vulnerable population.
- Require manufacturers of products made for children to disclose the use of these chemicals to the Oregon Health Authority.
- Provide data to our health officials to track how, when and in what quantities children are exposed to chemicals like formaldehyde, BPA, phthalates, arsenic, cadmium and benzene.
- Set manufacturers on a path to replacing the most toxic chemicals in children's products where the potential for harm is greatest.

**Chronic diseases such as asthma, obesity and cancer create significant social and economic burdens** from lost productivity and healthcare costs. Exposure to chemicals in infancy and early childhood, when children's brains are developing, can lead to learning, intellectual and behavioral disabilities that impact children's ability to keep pace with the classroom and to ultimately achieve educational excellence. If Oregon is to address these burdens, we must ensure our health officials can look closely at how carcinogens, hormone disruptors and other hazardous chemicals enter our environments at a time in life when exposure has the greatest potential to cause lasting harm. And it is the responsibility of manufacturers to use safer alternatives.

**SB 478 takes a practical approach,** setting priorities to address the chemicals of greatest concern in applications where exposure can contribute to the most serious health effects. Standards are in place to protect workers from toxic substances—their children and families should not be exposed to the same substances outside factory walls.

**By protecting human health through effective government policy and industry action,** this bill is a roadmap to a safer, healthier future for Oregon.

**Join us in supporting these efforts by passing SB 478.**

**YES ON SB 478 FOR A SAFER, HEALTHIER OREGON**