

I write in support of SB546. This bill is a first step to protect both children and adults from the adverse effects of the chemical compounds listed in the bill. These effects are not in question. Just to point to a few of the chemicals on the list, it is known that ortho-phthalates impair brain development and there is a growing body of evidence that they adversely impact male reproductive tract development. Formaldehyde at levels found in cosmetic products causes allergies not only in and of itself but also acts as an adjuvant to cause allergies to other compounds. It is a mutagen because of its ability to crosslink DNA and proteins, and increasingly evidence points to it as a carcinogen. Perfluoroalkyl (PFA) studies have found increases in prostate, kidney, and testicular cancers. PFAS may also affect immune system development, interfere with thyroid function, accelerate puberty, affect growth, learning and behavior in children and cause decreased fertility. Mercury and mercury compounds can be deadly toxins.

While some of these chemicals are used ubiquitously in many industries, beginning to free ourselves and the environment of them by their removal from products that are applied directly to our bodies would appear to be the most intelligent place to start. To have manufacturers claim that not adding these chemicals to their formularies is impossible is disingenuous at best. There are already manufacturers doing just that.