

Submitter: Doris Cellarius
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: HB3043
RE: HB 3043 (Toxic Free Kids Modernization)

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the more than 74,000 members and supporters of the Oregon Chapter Sierra Club, we are writing in support of HB3043. The Sierra Club is an organization with a long history of working to protect Oregon's environment and the health of all its citizens. We believe that HB 3043 is long overdue.

As you are hopefully aware, the 2015 Toxic Free Kids Act created a science-based "High Priority Chemicals of Concern for Children's Health" list and requires manufacturers to notify the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) when their products for children contain any of these chemicals. It also requires manufacturers to ultimately phase out the use of these dangerous chemicals and replace them with safer alternatives or to apply for a waiver.

HB 3043 works to modernize the law and helps address the increasing amounts of toxic chemicals found not only in our homes but our bodies as well. Even everyday products in our homes have been linked to health problems such as cancer, learning disabilities, and chronic diseases including asthma, diabetes, infertility, and Parkinson's disease. More concerning yet is that our children are the most vulnerable to the effects of these toxins. Reducing exposures to harmful chemicals is essential to ensuring the health and safety of our Oregon communities.

Unfortunately, neither state nor federal officials have been able to proactively protect us or our children from these toxic chemicals. HB 3043 takes an important first step to give Oregon authority over classes of chemicals and also require brand name and product model reporting— something we have learned is helpful and is becoming increasingly expected by consumers over these years of reporting.

HB 3043 is about the health of our children—Oregon's future— and we urge you to support it..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Cellarius