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## OREGON STATE SENATE

### Testimony in Support of SB 1032: Joleen’s Law (Aerosol Dusters Containing DFE)

May 6th, 2025

House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

1:00 p.m., Hearing Room F

Good afternoon, Chair Sosa, Vice Chairs Osborne and Chaichi, and Members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

For the record, my name is Lisa Reynolds, and I represent West Portland and communities in Northeastern Washington County. I have been a pediatrician for 20-plus years and continue to practice when the legislature is not in session.

Early this year, Mr. Ray Thomas approached our office seeking legislation in Oregon - similar to Minnesota’s - to protect against the dangers of inhalant abuse caused by “canned air” duster products. Our staff, Andrew, did more research on the topic, as together we learned about this growing trend. Difluoroethane, also known as DFE, is a chemical used in aerosol keyboard dusters that adults and kids are now getting high on, also called “huffing”, with dangerous consequences. We told Mr. Thomas we’d be happy to help him with his bill request.

You see, inhaling **DFE** - the chemical in aerosol dusters - can cause intoxication, asphyxiation, seizures, heart attacks, and damage to the internal organs. In August 2023, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commissioner (CPSC) Richard Trumka noted that the **social cost of injuries and deaths from aerosol duster abuse is over \$1 billion annually**.

Between 2006 and 2022, CPSC reports there have been 1,100 DEATHS from DFE toxicity. Additionally, a sample of 638 National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) injury cases estimated that there were 29,000 emergency department (ED) treated injuries resulting from inhalation of aerosol duster products in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

This bill:

- **Strengthens labeling** requirements to raise the awareness of harmful and potentially deadly effects of huffing this product.
- **Requires that dusters are not within public reach - for example, they must be** behind the counter or behind a locked shelf - similar to how some stores sell spray paint, laundry detergent, or razors).
- **Sets an age of purchase** of 18 years old to prevent minors from purchasing this product.

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<sup>1</sup> CPSC staff, rep., *Staff Briefing Package – Aerosol Duster Petition* (U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, July 26, 2023), [https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Petition-Requesting-Rulemaking-to-Establish-Safety-Standard-for-Aerosol-Duster-Products-Petition-CP-21-1.pdf?VersionId=.NohA6DG6WsXh\\_tsjhGuA7RuqMCOvxSW,3](https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Petition-Requesting-Rulemaking-to-Establish-Safety-Standard-for-Aerosol-Duster-Products-Petition-CP-21-1.pdf?VersionId=.NohA6DG6WsXh_tsjhGuA7RuqMCOvxSW,3).

- **Prohibits retailers from selling more than three aerosol dusters containing DFE** to a person in a single transaction.

The A engrossed version of the bill reflects the work between my office and OBI (Oregon Business and Industry) and the HCPA (Household & Commercial Products Association), who are both neutral on this bill.

Later today, you will be hearing from family members of Joleen Braasch-Berry, a young woman who had her whole life ahead of her - until a driver, who was high on aerosol dusters that were purchased at a nearby hardware store, was struck and killed not far from where we sit. (Oct 2020)

I am grateful to the family for bringing this forward - for hoping to prevent tragedies like the one that struck Joleen.

I urge the tech industry and manufacturers to prioritize the safety and well-being of consumers by developing and promoting non-hazardous alternatives for cleaning computers and electronic devices.

I also want to thank Senator Weber and Rep. Javadi for being chief sponsors of this legislation. And OBI and the HCPA for working with my staff on amendments.

This bill passed with wide bipartisan support in the Senate, and I urge your support here. Thank you for your time.

Thank you.