

Fact Sheet:

Bisphenol A (BPA) and Associated Risks

Protect Infant Health – Ban BPA in Baby Bottles Vote Yes - HB 1174 Rep Kagan

House Bill 1174 will protect infants by prohibiting the sale of baby bottles, sippy cups and pacifiers that contain Bisphenol A (BPA).

BPA in Baby Bottles Endangers Public Health

Bisphenol A (BPA) is a synthetic hormone found in polycarbonate plastic in baby bottles, water bottles, and the epoxy resins that coat the lining of metal food cans- including infant formula cans.

BPA is extremely unstable; heat and acidity after dishwashing and boiling can cause BPA to leach out of the plastic and into food and beverages, and then into our bodies.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 93% of Americans have detectable levels of BPA in their bodies at or above concentrations known to have adverse health effects.

Children are most vulnerable to these chemicals because they're still developing and growing.

More than 200 scientific studies found evidence that link very low doses of BPA to prostate and breast cancer, obesity, altered brain development, cardiac disease, diabetes, and early puberty.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is concerned about the danger BPA poses to our children's health

On January 15, 2010, the FDA announced that it now “shares the perspective of the National Toxicology Program that recent studies provide reason for some concern about the potential effects of BPA on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland of fetuses, infants and children.”

Alternatives to BPA are available, feasible, and already in use by manufacturers

Many alternatives exist and are in use including glass, stainless steel, Tritan Copolyester, High Density Polyethylene, Polypropylene Homopolmer, Polyethersulfone, Polyphenylsulfone, and Polyethylene Terephthalates.

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States and localities in the US are taking action

Minnesota: Governor Tim Pawlenty signed the first state law to ban BPA from children's products. (May 8, 2009)

Chicago, IL: Chicago became the first U.S. city to ban BPA in baby bottles and sippy cups. (May 14, 2009)

Connecticut: Governor Jodi Rell signed a bill that will ban BPA from baby bottles and reusable food and drink containers. (June 2009)

Massachusetts: The state issued a warning to parents of young children to avoid storing infant formula or breast milk in plastic bottles containing bisphenol A - and urged pregnant or breast-feeding women to avoid the common chemical in other food and drink containers. (August 3, 2009)

Suffolk, Albany and Schenectady Counties NY: Legislature banned BPA in baby bottles and sippy cups. (3/3/09; August 2009)

Wisconsin: The State Senate passed a ban unanimously and passed the state Assembly overwhelmingly (February, 2010)

Vermont: The State passed a ban on baby bottles, spill-proof cups, reusable food and beverage containers, and metal cans (May, 2010)