



Legislative Alert: Protect Children from Toxics in Toys by Supporting LD 2048

Legislators in Maine have the opportunity to lead the country in protecting children from toxic toys. **LD 2068, An Act to Protect Children's Health and the Environment from Toxic Chemicals in Children's Products** aims to stop the unrestricted exposure of children to known unsafe chemicals. The bill is set to be heard in the Natural Resources Committee tomorrow, Thursday, February 28th at 1pm. I urge to you to support the bill and encourage support among the colleagues.

LD 2068, introduced by Rep. Hannah Pingree, is one of the leading bills in the country. Specifically, the bill:

- Identifies toxics of high concern and prioritizes the “worst of the worst” chemicals based on children’s exposure,
- Requires manufacturers to disclose the use of priority chemicals in children’s products,
- Authorizes Maine to require safer alternatives,
- Provides for an interstate clearinghouse of information on toxics to easily identify toxins of concern.

Several states have introduced bills to ban toxics in children’s toys and products, including **Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia**. In fact, Rhode Island introduced the exact same bill as LD 2048.

With absolutely no guidance at the federal level, it’s up to the states to take measures to protect our children, the most vulnerable members of our society. Scientific studies have linked low-level chemical exposure to learning disabilities, reproductive harm, hormone problems and cancer.

The European Union, Japan, Mexico and Argentina are just a few of the countries that have banned certain toxics from children’s toys and products. Manufacturers are making safer toys for children in those countries and its time that they start making safer toys and products for our children.

I strongly urge you to support LD 2068 and help pass it out of committee tomorrow.

Thank you for all your hard work

More Resources

Progressive States Network, [Protecting Our Children: States Take Action Against Toxic Toys](#) and [Stopping Toxic Toys](#)