



VOTE YES ON HB 1248 CO Safe Personal Care Products Act

Bill SUMMARY

HB 1248 creates the “Colorado Safe Personal Care Products Act,” which prohibits a manufacturer from knowingly selling, offering for sale, or distributing for sale or use in Colorado any personal care product that contains a chemical identified as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. HB 1248 also permits private citizens to file suit to enforce the act against manufacturers who are not in compliance with the bill. If a manufacturer violates the act, the bill authorizes the imposition of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation per product for the first offence and up to \$10,000 per violation per product for a second or subsequent offence.

BACKGROUND

- Many products sold in the US contain toxic ingredients such as formaldehyde, phthalates, Bisphenol A, polybrominated diphenyl ethers, and coal tar. ***These ingredients are linked to cancer, birth defects, and adverse reproductive health outcomes including miscarriages, endometriosis, male genital defects, low sperm count, and more.***
- The average person uses 12 personal care products per day. ***The cumulative exposure over a lifetime can lead to serious health problems, including cancer and reproductive health toxicity.***
- ***There are 80,000 registered chemicals for commercial use*** – a 30 percent increase in 1979.
- ***These toxic chemicals are found in shampoos, deodorants, sunscreens, and many other personal care products.***

REPRODUCTIVE TOXINS

- ***The leading cause of female infertility is endometriosis, which has been linked to chemical exposure.***¹
- The annual number of miscarriages and stillbirths has jumped to above 16 per 1,000 pregnancies in the 1990s and 2000s, compared to 14 per 1,000 during the 1980s.²
- Reported infertility and impaired fertility, miscarriages, preterm births, and birth defects are all rising.
- Birth defects have been linked to chemical exposure.
- The average sperm count has steadily declined since the 1930s.

Americans are exposed to a multitude of chemicals, which accumulate in the body over time. Pregnant women pump blood through the umbilical cord from the placenta to the fetus. The blood provides essential nutrients for life, but it may also expose the fetus to dangerous chemicals contained in the mother’s body from her daily beauty products.

Support reproductive health by voting yes to HB 1248, CO Safe Personal Care Products Act.

For more information, contact Toni Panetta at (303) 394-1973 ext. 17

¹ “Reproductive Roulette. Declining Reproductive Health, Dangerous Chemicals, and a New Way Forward.” Reece Rushing, July 2009. Center for American Progress.

² Center for American Progress. Fact Sheet: Dangerous Chemicals and Declining Reproductive Health