

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 11-222—sSB 210
Environment Committee
General Law Committee

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER

SUMMARY: This act prohibits the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of thermal receipt or cash register receipt paper containing bisphenol-A (BPA) in Connecticut. The prohibition takes effect October 1, 2013 if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency identifies a safe, commercially available alternative to using BPA in these papers by June 30, 2013. Otherwise, it takes effect July 1, 2015.

The act defines these papers as any paper a commercial entity uses to issue a mechanically produced record of a consumer transaction.

The consumer protection commissioner may enforce the act within available appropriations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Bisphenol-A (BPA)

BPA is an industrial chemical used to make certain plastics and resins, such as polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. Polycarbonate plastics are often used in food and beverage containers, such as water and baby bottles. Epoxy resins can be used to coat the inside of metal products, such as food and baby formula cans, bottle tops, and water supply lines. BPA is also found in certain thermal paper products, such as cash register receipts. Laboratory animal studies have found BPA to have harmful effects on reproduction and development.

OLR Tracking: KLM:KM:VR:ts