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Testimony Before Committee on Environment

**In Support of House Bill 5116 AN ACT REQUIRING THE LABELING OF
FOOD PACKAGING THAT CONTAINS BISPHENOL- A**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

**I am in support of HB 5116 AN ACT REQUIRING THE LABELING OF FOOD
PACKAGING THAT CONTAINS BISPHENOL -A**

As citizens of the United States we have the right to full disclosure of chemicals of high concern for our children, that is the human being, and in utero, before they are delivered into a world of more unknowns. Bisphenol- A was our trophy toxin ban for Baby Bottles and as you know the first state in the nation. The reasons for such a ban, was obvious, to protect and prevent further associated illness, and is the foundation for the importance for further labeling to warn the consumer of this toxic chemical. This is listed with chemicals of high concern with children. Labeling must be visible and made known to the public in CT and establishing another protective consumer bill for the nation to further healthier, educated choices, and to lend precaution for the manufacturer and consumer to exercise.

The 'cost' of this issue is the cost of the 'quality of life' and in some cases, the loss of that life, of our children and in stages of development while in utero and on. Keeping our society ignorant at the price of a child is indeed costly. This is not a 3rd world country, yet we have little or no regulations on over 83,000 chemicals while the European Union and Canada have established high children priority.

*I had the privilege of showing a film forum this Saturday on Toxic Toys and Products: **CONTAMINATED Without Consent & Toy Toxins,PBS**, and looking directly into the eyes of mother's and father's that clearly said they were not only 'concerned' they were scared for their children with all the chemical exposure and didn't know how exposed their loved ones were going be in their developing...The labeling of Bisphenal-A yes, and other chemicals of concern ideally, such as, **Phthalates, lead, still, flame retardants, TRIS.....to name a few known endocrine disruptor's in development and have come to be near impossible to avoid on many levels...***

When companies are sitting in a board room discussing cost risk factors of chemicals, labeling, packaging....what species are we talking here? What are we feeding into, continuing to hold a blind eye..No..too many symptoms. **It's hard to see the eyes of parents concern, and the eyes of their children holding on to life in CT's children's hospitals. Parents want to become more educated.**

Pre caution means before....before the exposure to toxic chemicals...

When a parent runs to the store to buy an apple in one hand and a toy for his infant or child in another, he wants to gratify.....He speaks to them to gratify, to bring pleasure, not to expose them to chemical toxins associated with 'rising' carcinomas, birth abnormalities, learning disabilities....!

Our toxic chemicals our in part like loaded guns...The triggers may not exhibit illness until later in development....

*However, 'endocrine disruptor' was coined way back in 1991 with Theo Colborn, leading authority on 'endocrine disrupting chemicals-'the hormone system. I will share here that 'endo' is Greek for 'inside'....*When we remove ourselves from the board room and learn that by the second trimester of a women's pregnancy...**during the critical periods of fetal genital development, it is known that some of these 'endocrine disruptor's' travel through the umbilical to the fetus, and disrupt and interrupt the hormones messengers. There is intelligent concern of many , Endocrinologist Dr. Frederick von Saal for one.... The correlation of mutations, in humans, such as with the male fetus, with 'hypospadias' another birth defect...this is of the urethra in the male that involves abnormally placed urinary (meatus), (the opening, or male external urethral orifice). Hypospadias opening, mutates anywhere on line (the urethral groove) running from the tip along the underside (ventral aspect) of the shaft to the junction of the penis and scrotum or perineum. (1995;Carlsen et al, 1995).**

This is just the beginning what can take place 'inside' endo crine the human fetus.

Later on in life if these males make it trough the emotional crisis, they and other mature males may find that not only is there increase rates of testicular cancer, but decrease in semen and, sperm quality, due to the probability of exposure to toxic CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN.

Let us too remember DES estrogen/diethylstilbestrol given to pregnant women before it's ban in 1970 noted later daughters increase of vaginal and cervical cancers....

It is imperative that we 'begin' to make law the visible labeling of this toxic chemical, Bisphenol-A for awareness, education, and to protect in utero, and those that are delivered into our world.

Let this Spring not be Silent!

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