



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 228

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6526

House of Representatives, March 27, 2013

The Committee on Children reported through REP. URBAN of the 43rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) For purposes of this section
2 and sections 2 to 8, inclusive:

3 (1) "Chemical" means (A) a substance with a distinct molecular
4 composition, or (B) a group of structurally-related substances.
5 "Chemical" includes the breakdown products of the substance or
6 substances that form through decomposition, degradation or
7 metabolism;

8 (2) "Chemical of high concern to children" means a chemical
9 identified by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 2
10 of this act;

11 (3) "Children's product" means a consumer product designed or
12 intended primarily for children under twelve years of age, including,

13 but not limited to, clothing, baby products, toys, car seats, personal
14 care products and any consumer product containing a chemical of high
15 concern that when used or disposed of will likely result in a child
16 twelve years of age or younger, or a fetus, being exposed to such
17 chemical. "Children's product" does not include over-the-counter
18 drugs, prescription drugs, food, dietary supplements, packaging,
19 medical devices and products that are both a cosmetic and a drug
20 regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration. A product
21 label that includes usage instructions for a product that applies to
22 children does not in and of itself establish that the product is a
23 children's product;

24 (4) "Consumer product" means any item sold for residential or
25 commercial use, including any component parts and packaging, that is
26 sold for: (A) Use in a residence, child care facility, licensed pursuant to
27 section 17a-145 of the general statutes, or school, as defined in
28 subsection (g) of section 10-233a of the general statutes; or (B) an
29 outdoor residential use if any child twelve years of age or younger
30 may have direct contact with the item. "Consumer product" does not
31 include (i) a food or beverage or an additive to a food or beverage, a
32 tobacco product or a pesticide regulated by the United States
33 Environmental Protection Agency, (ii) a drug or biologic regulated by
34 the United States Department of Health and Human Services or federal
35 Food and Drug Administration or the packaging of a drug or biologic
36 regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration if the
37 packaging is also regulated by the federal Food and Drug
38 Administration, or (iii) an item sold for outdoor residential use that
39 includes composite material made from polyester resins;

40 (5) "Distributor" means a person who sells consumer products to
41 retail establishments on a wholesale basis;

42 (6) "Intentionally-added chemical" means a chemical that was added
43 during the manufacture of a product or product component to provide
44 a specific characteristic, appearance or quality, or to perform a specific
45 function;

46 (7) "Manufacturer" means any person who manufactured a final
47 consumer product or whose brand name is affixed to the consumer
48 product. In the case of a consumer product that was imported into the
49 United States, "manufacturer" includes the importer or first domestic
50 distributor of the consumer product if the person who manufactured
51 or assembled the consumer product or whose brand name is affixed to
52 the consumer product does not have a presence in the United States;

53 (8) "Priority chemical" means a chemical identified by the
54 Commissioner of Public Health that is known, on the basis of credible
55 scientific evidence, to: (A) Harm the normal development of a fetus or
56 child or cause other developmental toxicity; (B) cause cancer, genetic
57 damage or reproductive harm; (C) disrupt the endocrine system; (D)
58 damage the nervous system, immune system or organs or cause other
59 systemic toxicity; (E) be persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic; or (F) be
60 very persistent and very bioaccumulative;

61 (9) "Very bioaccumulative" means having a bioconcentration factor
62 or bioaccumulation factor equal to or greater than five thousand, or
63 having a log Kow greater than 5.0; and

64 (10) "Very persistent" means having (A) a half-life in soil or
65 sediment of greater than one hundred eighty days; or (B) a half-life
66 equal to or greater than sixty days in water or evidence of long-range
67 transport.

68 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public
69 Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Energy and
70 Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Consumer
71 Protection, shall create and maintain a list of priority chemicals that are
72 of high concern to children after considering a child's or developing
73 fetus's potential for exposure to each chemical. Not later than January
74 1, 2014, and every two years thereafter, said commissioners shall
75 identify two or more chemicals for inclusion on such list. Said
76 commissioners may include chemicals that (1) are listed on the State of
77 Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Chemicals of High
78 Concern list and the State of Washington Department of Health's

79 Chemicals of High Concern for Children list, or (2) meet one or more
80 of the following criteria: (A) The chemical has been found through
81 biomonitoring studies that demonstrate the presence of the chemical in
82 human umbilical cord blood, breast milk, urine or other bodily tissues
83 or fluids; (B) the chemical has been found through sampling and
84 analysis to be present in household dust, indoor air, drinking water or
85 elsewhere in the home environment; or (C) the chemical has been
86 added to or is present in a consumer product used or present in the
87 home.

88 (b) Said commissioners shall review and revise the list of priority
89 chemicals of high concern at least every two years and shall consider
90 adding chemicals that meet the criteria set forth in subdivisions (1) and
91 (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

92 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than one year after a
93 chemical is placed on the list of priority chemicals in accordance with
94 subsection (a) of section 2 of this act, a manufacturer of a children's
95 product whose product contains such chemical, or a trade organization
96 on behalf of its member manufacturers whose products contain such
97 chemical, shall provide a Disclosure Notification Report to the
98 Commissioner of Public Health in such form and in such manner as
99 said commissioner prescribes, that such manufacturer's product
100 contains an intentionally added priority chemical. Such report shall be
101 filed biennially and shall include: (1) The name of the priority chemical
102 and its Chemical Abstracts Service registry number; (2) a brief
103 description of the product or product component containing the
104 priority chemical; (3) a description of the function of the priority
105 chemical in the product; (4) the amount of the priority chemical in the
106 product; (5) the name, address and contact information for the
107 manufacturer; and (6) such other information as the commissioner may
108 require. The commissioner may authorize a manufacturer to submit
109 such report to the interstate chemicals clearinghouse, as described in
110 section 6 of this act.

111 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than two years

112 after a chemical is placed on the list of priority chemicals in accordance
113 with subsection (a) of section 2 of this act, a manufacturer that
114 manufactures children's products containing a priority chemical shall
115 submit a Product Innovation Plan to the Commissioner of Public
116 Health. The plan shall include: (1) A timeframe for removal of the
117 identified priority chemical from the manufactured children's product;
118 (2) an affidavit stating that any chemical used to replace the priority
119 chemical is inherently less hazardous to children's health based on (A)
120 supporting documentation that the replacement chemical is not (i)
121 persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic, (ii) very persistent,
122 bioaccumulative and toxic, (iii) very persistent and toxic, (iv) very
123 bioaccumulative and toxic, or (v) known or likely to be carcinogenic,
124 mutagenic, a reproductive or developmental toxicant, neurotoxicant or
125 endocrine disrupting, or (B) a hazard assessment protocol; or (3) a plan
126 and timeline acceptable to the commissioner for conducting research to
127 identify inherently less hazardous substitutes if none currently exist
128 for specific identified uses.

129 (b) The Commissioner of Public Health may authorize the interstate
130 chemicals clearinghouse, as described in section 6 of this act, to review
131 and determine the adequacy of the plan pursuant to subsection (a) of
132 this section.

133 (c) The plan shall be approved by the commissioner if it meets the
134 criteria specified in subsection (a) of this section and meets a three-year
135 phase-out timeframe. If the plan fails to meet such criteria, the
136 commissioner shall make recommendations to the General Assembly
137 regarding (1) product labeling, (2) forfeiture of sales of that
138 manufacturer's children's products in the state, or (3) civil penalties to
139 be collected by the Department of Public Health.

140 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) A manufacturer that sells
141 children's products containing a priority chemical in the state may
142 consult with the Chemical Innovations Institute, as described in section
143 22a-903 of the general statutes, or other green chemistry research
144 institution in the state to identify a replacement chemical that is

145 inherently less hazardous to children's health, provided the
146 identification of such replacement chemical includes supporting
147 documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of
148 subsection (a) of section 4 of this act.

149 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Public
150 Health may, within available appropriations, participate in an
151 interstate chemicals clearinghouse to (1) classify chemicals in children's
152 products into one of the following four categories: (A) High concern,
153 (B) moderate concern, (C) low concern, or (D) unknown concern; (2)
154 organize and manage available data on chemicals, including, but not
155 limited to, information on uses, hazards and environmental concerns
156 associated with chemicals; (3) produce and inventory information on
157 safer alternatives for specific uses of chemicals and model policies and
158 programs related to such alternatives; (4) provide technical assistance
159 to businesses and consumers relating to safer chemicals; and (5)
160 perform other activities related to this section.

161 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 15, 2015,
162 and biennially thereafter, the Commissioner of Public Health shall
163 report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
164 having cognizance of matters relating to public health on the status of
165 the list of priority chemicals, created and maintained in accordance
166 with section 2 of this act, and the number of (1) manufacturers that
167 have submitted disclosure notification reports in the previous
168 biennium, (2) manufacturers in compliance with the product
169 innovation plans, and (3) products, users and manufacturers, if any,
170 that the commissioner has exempted from the provisions of sections 3
171 to 5, inclusive, of this act.

172 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Public
173 Health is authorized to assess a fee payable by the manufacturer or
174 such manufacturer's trade association to cover the department's
175 reasonable costs in processing and managing the information collected
176 upon submission of a disclosure notification report and a product
177 innovation plan. The commissioner shall not assess a fee on a

178 manufacturer that submits a product innovation plan within two years
 179 after the date required and certifies in such plan that the priority
 180 chemical is removed without any substitution of another chemical.

181 Sec. 9. Section 21a-348 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 182 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 2(a), "human" was deleted for clarity and consistency; in section 3, "whose product contains such chemical" was added for clarity and consistency; in section 5, "pursuant to the criteria set forth in subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 4 of this act" was changed to "to children's health, provided the identification of such replacement chemical includes supporting documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 4 of this act" for clarity; and in section 8, technical revisions were made for clarity and consistency.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	189,344	161,225
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	8,500	8,500
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	31,131	53,657
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	less than 230,000	less than 230,000

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a state cost of \$220,475 in FY 14 and \$214,882 in FY 15 and a potential cost of \$8,500 in both fiscal years to the Department of Public Health (DPH). DPH is allowed to assess a fee payable by manufacturers or trade associations to cover DPH costs to process and manage information required for collection under the bill. Therefore, the bill is anticipated to result in a revenue gain of less than \$230,000. However it is unclear how these revenues will be assessed. It is unknown (1) what chemicals DPH will include in a list of priority chemicals of high concern to children’s or fetal health, (2) how many manufacturers produce children’s products that contain such chemicals, (3) how many of these manufacturers will chose to disclose product chemical containment to DPH and (4) how many will submit a Product Innovation Plan within 2 years of the date required (if a Plan certifies that the chemical is removed without substitution of another

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 34.54% of payroll in FY 14 and FY 15.

chemical, a fee cannot be assessed by DPH). As such, it is unknown how DPH will determine what this fee should be set at, how many entities could be assessed this fee and, therefore, it is also not possible to determine what amount of revenue will ultimately be collected.

The state cost is associated with requiring DPH to (1) develop and update a list of priority chemicals of high concern to children's or fetal health, (2) accept manufacturer or trade organization Disclosure Notification Reports, (3) review Product Innovation Plans and (4) make recommendations to the General Assembly for remedies and penalties on manufacturers whose Plans fail to meet criteria provided in the bill. State cost details are provided in the table below. The bill also specifies that DPH may participate in an Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2) within available appropriations. If DPH chose to do so, the cost to the agency would be \$8,500 in both FY 14 and FY 15.²

Anticipated State Costs of sHB 6526¹

Item	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Department of Public Health (DPH)		
Toxicologist	87,594	87,594
Epidemiologist II	-	63,381
DPH positions	87,594	150,975
Data management software ²	100,000	10,000
Equipment (computers)	1,500	-
Office supplies	250	250
DPH TOTAL	189,344	161,225
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	31,131	53,657
STATE TOTAL	220,475	214,882

¹The potential cost of \$8,500 to DPH under the bill is not included in this table.

²Database development and purchase costs in FY 14. Licensing and maintenance costs only in FY 15.

DPH must create and maintain a list of priority chemicals of high concern to children's or fetal health. Not later than 1/1/14 and biannually thereafter, DPH must identify two or more chemicals for

²Annual IC2 member contributions are based on a population scale. The contribution for states with a population between 2 million and 6 million people is \$8,500. There were an estimated 3.6 million Connecticut residents in 2012.

inclusion on this list. A Toxicologist position is reflected under DPH to create and update this list. The Epidemiologist II position is anticipated to record and track Reports and Plans, review Plans and make recommendations to the General Assembly for remedies and penalties on manufacturers whose Plans fail to meet criteria. This position is reflected in FY 15 and not in FY 14 as submittals of Reports are required no later than a year after the chemical in question is placed on the list. It is anticipated that this list would not be released until 10/1/14 at the earliest. As such, the Reports are anticipated to be submitted in FY 15. A year following this notification, the manufacturer must submit a Product Innovation Plan to DPH for evaluation.

Data management software is anticipated to be required to store and monitor priority chemical Reports and Plans, track failure to submit Plans, Plans that do not meet requirements, follow-up and recommendations to be made to the General Assembly. A cost of \$100,000 is reflected in FY 14 for the one-time development and establishment of this software and \$10,000 is reflected in FY 15 to reflect on-going licensing and maintenance costs. One-time equipment costs of \$1,500 are reflected for the two DPH positions and on-going general office supply costs of \$250 are also included. State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits costs for the Toxicologist and Epidemiologist positions total \$31,131 in FY 14 and \$53,657 in FY 15.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation. In addition, normal annual pension costs (currently estimated at 7.5% of payroll) attributable to the identified personnel changes will be recognized in the state's annual required pension contribution in future actuarial valuations.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6526

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the commissioner of the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the commissioners of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and Consumer Protection (DCP), to create and maintain a list of "priority" chemicals that are of high concern to children after considering a child's or developing fetus' potential for exposure to each chemical. The first two chemicals must be identified for inclusion on the list by January 1, 2014, and at least another two must be identified every two years thereafter. The list can include chemicals on Maine's and Washington's lists of similar chemicals.

The commissioner must review and revise the list at least biennially and consider adding to it. The bill also requires the DPH commissioner to report to the Public Health Committee on the list's status biennially, with the first report due by January 15, 2015.

The bill requires children's products manufacturers, or a trade organization on behalf of its member manufacturers, to provide a Disclosure Notification Report to DPH when any of its products contains an intentionally added priority chemical. And it requires these manufacturers to submit a plan for removing the chemicals. The DPH commissioner can assess a fee on the manufacturers or their trade organizations to pay for processing and managing the report and plan information.

The bill also permits the DPH commissioner to participate in an interstate chemicals clearinghouse.

Finally, it repeals a requirement that the DCP commissioner, within available appropriations and in consultation with the DPH and DEEP commissioners, compile lists of (1) toxic substances that potentially should not exist in children's products, and (2) safer alternatives to them, other than a list that, by law, he must already do for toys and other articles intended for children's use and are classified as banned hazardous substances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

PRIORITY LIST OF CHEMICALS

Priority Chemical Defined

The bill defines a priority chemical as one the DPH commissioner identifies and is known, based on credible scientific evidence to:

1. harm the normal development of a fetus or child or cause other developmental toxicity;
2. cause cancer, genetic damage, or reproductive harm;
3. disrupt the endocrine system;
4. damage the nervous or immune systems or organs system or cause other systemic toxicity;
5. be persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic; or
6. be very persistent and very bioaccumulative.

A "very persistent" chemical has long-range transport capabilities or a half-life (1) in soil or sediment of more than 180 days or (2) in water of 60 or more days. A "very bioaccumulative" chemical is one having a bioconcentration factor or bioaccumulation factor of 5,000 or more or having a "log K_{ow} " over 5.0. K_{ow} is a measurement that provides useful prediction of the other physical properties for most organic substances with molecular weight below 500. Both bioaccumulation and log K_{ow} are considered to be good indicators of bioaccumulation of chemicals in organisms and food chains. The

higher the K_{ow} value, the more likely the chemical is to have a bioaccumulative effect.

Other States' Lists

The bill allows the DCP, DEEP, and DPH commissioners to include on the priority list chemicals that (1) are on the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Chemicals of High Concern list and the Washington Department of Health's Chemicals of High Concern for Children list (see BACKGROUND) or (2) meet one of more of the following criteria:

1. biomonitoring studies demonstrate the chemical's presence in umbilical cord blood, breast milk, urine, or other bodily tissues or fluid;
2. sampling and analysis has found the chemical to be present in household dust, indoor air, drinking water, or elsewhere in the home environment; or
3. the chemical has been added to or is in a consumer product used or present in the home.

DISCLOSURES BY MANUFACTURERS

The bill requires children's product manufacturers or trade groups representing these manufacturers, within one year after a priority chemical is added to the list, to provide a Disclosure Notification Report to the DPH commissioner in a form and manner that she prescribes when the manufacturer makes a product containing an intentionally added priority chemical. An intentionally added chemical is one added during the manufacture of a product, or one of the product's components, to provide a specific characteristic, appearance, or quality, or to perform a specific function.

The report must be filed every two years (presumably this is after the initial report is filed) and must include:

1. the priority chemical's name and its Chemical Abstracts Service

registry number;

2. a brief description of the product or product component containing the priority chemical;
3. a description of the priority chemical's function in the product;
4. the amount of the priority chemical in the product;
5. the manufacturer's name, address, and contact information; and
6. any other information the commissioner requires.

The bill permits the DPH commissioner to authorize a manufacturer to submit the report to "the" Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (ICC) (see below).

The bill defines a "manufacturer" as any person who manufactured a final consumer product or whose brand name is affixed to the consumer product. For products imported into the U.S., this includes the product's importer or first domestic distributor if the person who manufactured or assembled the product or whose name brand is affixed to it does not have a U.S. presence.

Children's Product Defined

The bill defines a children's product as a consumer product designed or intended primarily for children under age 12, including clothing, baby products, toys, car seats, personal care products, and any consumer product containing a chemical of high concern that, when used or disposed of, will likely result in a child age 12 or younger, or a fetus, being exposed to it.

Such products do not include over-the-counter and prescription drugs, food, dietary supplements, packaging, medical devices, and products that are both a cosmetic and a drug regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration. The bill provides that a product label with usage instructions for a product that applies to children does not by itself make that product a children's product.

The state Child Protection Act (CGS § 21a-335, et seq.), which generally bans the manufacture or sale of certain children's products that are considered hazardous, defines a children's product as a consumer product designed or intended for children of the same ages as under the bill, and also includes accessories, jewelry, decorative objects, candy, food, dietary supplements or other edible or chewable items, furniture, or other articles children use.

MANUFACTURER PLANS TO REMOVE CHEMICALS FROM THEIR PRODUCTS

The bill requires manufacturers, within two years after a chemical is placed on the priority list, to submit a Product Innovation Plan to the DPH commissioner if they manufacture a children's product containing the chemical.

The plan must include:

1. a timeframe for removing the priority chemical from the product;
2. an affidavit stating that any chemical used to replace the priority chemical is inherently less hazardous to children's health based on (a) supporting documentation that the new chemical is not (i) persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic; (ii) very persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic; (iii) very persistent and toxic; (iv) very bioaccumulative and toxic; or (v) known or likely to be carcinogenic, mutagenic, a reproductive or developmental toxicant, neurotoxicant, or endocrine-disrupting; or (b) a hazard assessment protocol; or
3. a plan and timeline acceptable to the commissioner for conducting research to identify inherently less hazardous substitutes if none currently exist for specific identified uses.

The bill allows the DPH commissioner to authorize the ICC to review and determine the plan's adequacy.

The commissioner must approve the plan if it meets the bill's

criteria and contains a three-year chemical phase-out timeframe. If the plan fails to meet “such” criteria (it is not clear whether such includes both the criteria and the timeframe or just the criteria), the commissioner must make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding (1) product labeling, (2) the manufacturer forfeiting its ability to sell its children’s products in the state (which apparently would include all products, not just those with priority chemicals), and (3) civil penalties that DPH can collect (presumably against a manufacturer that fails to comply with the bill’s provisions).

The bill permits manufacturers that sell children’s products in Connecticut that contain priority chemicals to consult with the Chemical Innovations Institute at the UConn Health Center (see BACKGROUND) or other “green” chemistry research institution in the state to identify a replacement chemical that is inherently less hazardous to children’s health. The identified replacement chemical must include the supporting documentation the bill requires.

REPORTS

The bill requires the DPH commissioner to report to the Public Health Committee on the status of the priority list of chemicals by January 15, 2015 and every two years thereafter. She must include the number of (1) manufacturers that have submitted disclosure notification reports in the previous biennium; (2) manufacturers in compliance with the product innovation plans; and (3) products, users, and manufacturers, if any, that the commissioner has exempted. (The bill does not authorize, or establish a process for, DPH to grant exemptions.)

FEES

The bill allows the DPH commissioner to assess a fee the manufacturers or trade associations pay to cover the agency’s reasonable costs in processing and managing the information collected from disclosure notification reports and product innovation plans. No fee may be assessed on a manufacturer that (1) submits a product innovation plan no more than two years after it is required to do so

and (2) certifies in the plan that the priority chemical is removed and no other chemical has been substituted for it.

INTERSTATE CHEMICALS CLEARINGHOUSE PARTICIPATION

The bill authorizes the DPH commissioner, within available appropriations, to participate in an interstate chemicals clearinghouse to:

1. classify chemicals in children's products into one of the following categories: (a) high concern, (b) moderate concern, (c) low concern, and (d) unknown concern;
2. organize and manage available data on chemicals including information on uses, hazards, and environmental concerns;
3. produce and inventory information on safer alternatives for specific uses of chemicals and model policies and programs related to the alternatives;
4. provide technical assistance to businesses and consumers relating to safer chemicals; and
5. perform other related activities.

The law (CGS § 22a-902) already authorizes the DEEP commissioner, within available appropriations, to participate in an interstate clearinghouse for the same purposes as those the bill delineates for the DPH commissioner. (DEEP already participates in the Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse, which includes several other states, see BACKGROUND.)

BACKGROUND

Maine and Washington Lists of Chemicals

Maine has compiled a "List of Chemicals of High Concern." The list includes toxicity and exposure levels based on scientific studies. The list includes 49 chemicals, eight of which were found to be of concern when ingested by children.

Washington has identified 66 chemicals of high concern to children and publishes a list of these. For each chemical, the state includes information on toxicity and exposure and cites references.

Chemical Innovations Institute

In 2010, the legislature established a Chemical Innovations Institute at the UConn Health Center to (1) foster green job growth and safer workplaces through encouraging clean technology innovation and utilization of green chemistry, and (2) provide assistance to businesses, state agencies, and nonprofits that wish to use alternatives to chemicals that are harmful to the public health and environment (PA 10-164, codified in § 22a-903).

Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse

The Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (also known as IC2) is an association of state, local, and tribal governments that promotes a clean environment, healthy communities, and a vital economy through the development and use of safer chemicals and products.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Children Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 8 Nay 4 (03/12/2013)