

My name is Christine O'Day and I am a resident of Wilton, CT. I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB 316.

I am very pleased to see the introduction of a bill to label BPA (Bisphenol-A) in food packaging. Not only am I strongly in favor of it, but I think it is long overdue. BPA has been linked to studies for harmful health effects including disruption of the endocrine system, potentially leading to very serious health issues like cardiovascular disease, cancer, fertility issues and other chronic diseases, in addition to mounting negative effects on our environment. Like so many other chemicals allowed in products for consumers, just small amounts on a regular basis add up and have a significant impact over time. And some of us are more susceptible to the harmful effects of these chemicals than others. Several years ago, CT led the way by eliminating BPA in baby bottles. The rest of the country, and the world, followed. Today, there are many people who know about BPA and look to avoid it. If it's deemed not safe for baby bottles, how is it safe in baby food and other food packages? So why are we allowing this chemical in food packaging without labels? Personally, I'd like to see it banned in all food packaging but at the very least, I'd like to see CT lead the way, once again, and require labeling on any food packaging that contains this chemical. It's time we start requiring more transparency for consumers especially when it comes to health and safety.

I hope you will vote in favor of SB-316.

Christine O'Day  
9 Riding Club Road  
Wilton, CT 06897