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Public Health Committee

In Support of RB 126 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS

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Good Afternoon Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson and other members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Alexandra Ferreira. Today, I am here as a mother and a concerned citizen of this great state of our. I would like to thank you for raising SB 126 AAC CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS.

This bill should be passed without any opposition and without much debate and I encourage this committee to put our children's well being ahead of corporate profits and deceptive headlines. We simply **have the right to know** what chemicals are being used in our children's products.

There is growing evidence that many commonly used chemicals are harmful and dangerous to people and the environment. Industries that cater to children use them in their products and do not disclose that information voluntarily. As parents, teachers and concerned citizens, we have the right to know and will fight to have transparency and access to such information.

Personally, I will not buy any product that is not properly labeled. I know this practice to be a growing trend in the country. Scientific research strongly links the rising incidences of diseases such as Autism Spectrum Disorder with early life exposure to chemicals. Unfortunately, companies who are selling us poisoned products continue to deny that there is a problem. I have a nephew who is Autistic. It is a tremendously difficult situation. For him and so many other children I encourage you to support this bill.

We have heard the opposition and their arguments before and they have tried to convince us that some of the most dangerous products out there are good for us. But we know better. Tobacco for example, will kill you. It's not cool, yet the tobacco industry has spent billions trying to convince us of the opposite. We have the right to know.

I am certain that this committee will vote to protect our children. I know you will not side with the feeble argument the industry continuously makes on the issue. This bill is not too expansive, it will not put them out of business and it will not impact the bottom line. I am confident you will side with our children.

Thank you for your support.