



Safe children's products should be a right, not a privilege.

An Act relative to toxic free kids [S.175, H.318](#)

Sponsored by Senator Cindy Friedman and Representative James Hawkins

Problem: Toxic chemicals shouldn't be in things children use every day. But children's products can contain harmful chemicals like lead, cadmium, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), asbestos, phthalates, bisphenols and more. Meanwhile, childhood cancer rates have increased 41% since 1975. Neurodevelopmental diseases have increased even more rapidly, up 38% since 1997.¹ Scientists suspect toxic exposures are contributing to these increased rates of illness.²

Solution: The Toxic Free Kids bill will require businesses to disclose the chemicals they put in products, giving Massachusetts families the information they need to keep kids safe. It will ban the worst chemicals from children's products, starting with toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. This bill:

- Requires businesses to **disclose if toxic chemicals are in children's products** they sell or manufacture in Massachusetts. The state must make this information publicly available in an on-line database.
- **Bans PFAS** from children's products.
- Requires the state to **ban some "High Priority Chemicals" from children's products every three years**, with the goal of continually evaluating products for safety and **taking action over time to eliminate toxic chemicals in products**.
 - The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection will create and maintain a Chemicals of Concern list and a High Priority Chemicals list.
 - Chemicals of Concern are carcinogens, mutagens, reproductive or developmental toxics, endocrine disrupting chemicals, asthmagens, and other chemicals of equal concern.
 - High Priority Chemicals are Chemicals of Concern which present a particular risk because they are known to escape from products and to be in people's bodies or the home environment.
 - Once a chemical is restricted in children's products, businesses will have three years to eliminate the chemical and replace it with a safer alternative.



1 https://www.cancerfreeeconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CFE_ChildhoodCancerPrevention_Report_F2.pdf and https://www.cancerfreeeconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021_CCP_Report_Anniversary_Addendum_FINAL.pdf & <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/139/2/e20162245>

2 Ibid.

