



# Memorandum of Support

## S.4265 (Webb)/ A.6969 (Glick)

**Purpose:** Provides for the regulation of ingredients in personal care products and cosmetics to include restricted substances which shall be provided on lists identified by the commissioner.

**Statement of Support:** Americans use an average of 10 personal care products each day and yet these products continue to be one of the least regulated industries in the United States. Personal care products can contain chemicals that are associated with asthma, allergies, hormone disruption, neurodevelopmental problems, infertility, and even cancer. Disclosure required at the federal level fails to adequately educate and protect consumers because while some of the information is labeled on products, there is no information on the toxicity of the ingredients. Additionally, many manufacturers will use the word “fragrance” on an ingredient list, not disclosing what multiple chemicals often make up the individual ingredient listed.

S.4265 builds off of New York State’s commitment to protect New Yorkers from toxic and harmful chemicals through comprehensive policy. The bill would ban the sale of personal care products that contain a restricted substance, starting two years after the law takes effect. Restricted substances are outlined in the bill to include: lead; lead compounds; parabens including butyl-, ethyl-, isobutyl-, isopropyl-, methyl-, and propyl-; Ortho-phthalates and their esters; Per and Polyfluoroalkyl substances; formaldehyde and formaldehyde releases; benzophenones; asbestos and asbestos containing compounds; butylated compounds; siloxanes; phenylenediamines; triclosan; nitrosamine and known carcinogens including benzene, carbon black, coal tar.

Phasing out harmful and unnecessary chemicals in personal care products will have a lasting effect on the health of New Yorkers and the environment. These chemicals have a way of finding their way into our air, water, and the tissue mass of plants and animals; even when these products are eventually thrown away and end up in the landfill. Sierra Club is devoted to protecting public health and the environment by decreasing exposure to hazardous substances through reducing toxic chemicals in everyday products and in educating consumers about the potential risks of hazardous substances such as endocrine disruptors, formaldehyde, lead, mercury, and other persistent toxins that often end up in our air, water, and natural places

The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Strongly Urges Your Support of S.4265

2018: *Household Cleaning Product Ingredient Disclosure Policy*; 2020: *Child Safe Products Act* 744 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207 • (518) 426-9144 • <http://newyork.sierraclub.org>