

# ***Protect Our Kids from Toxic Toys and Harmful Chemicals in Everyday Products***

## **Keep Toxic Chemicals Away from Our Kids!**

**The Legislature should protect Maine families by enacting LD 2048, “An Act to Protect Children’s Health and the Environment from Toxic Chemicals in Toys and Children’s Products.”**



## **Young Children Face the Greatest Threat**

- Over 75% of brain development occurs during the first three years of a child’s life.
- Children are especially vulnerable to toxic chemicals as their bodies are developing rapidly, they ingest house dust, and they put products in their mouths.
- Credible scientific research has linked low-level chemical exposure to learning disabilities, reproductive harm, hormone problems and cancer.

## **Safer Alternatives are Widely Available**

- For example, rubber duckies, baby bottles and plastic backpacks are sold ***without toxic chemicals*** like phthalates, bisphenol A and lead, respectively, although these chemicals are widely used in similar products without disclosure.

## **LD 2048 Takes a Common-Sense First Step:**

- Focuses on toxic chemicals already identified as being of high concern by independent scientists.
- Requires Maine to prioritize the “worst of the worst” chemicals based on children’s exposure.
- Requires manufacturers to disclose the use of priority chemicals in kids’ products.
- Authorizes Maine to require safer alternatives, if available, effective & affordable.
- Directs Maine to cooperate with other states to share information and collaboratively fill gap in broken federal safety system for toxic chemicals.