MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
Ban on Use of Chlorpyrifos

A.2477 - Englebright
S.2156 - Kaminsky

An ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to prohibiting the use of chlorpyrifos

JUSTIFICATION
Chlorpyrifos is an organophosphate pesticide, which works to block the enzyme cholinesterase and impairs the central nervous system. Chlorpyrifos is a dangerous pesticide that can damage the developing brains of children, causing reduced IQ, loss of working memory, and attention deficit disorders.

U.S. staple foods such as corn, wheat, apples and citrus are sprayed with chlorpyrifos, putting our health and environment at risk. People are exposed to chlorpyrifos through residues on food, drinking water contamination, and toxic spray drift from pesticide applications.

A growing body of evidence shows that prenatal exposure to very low levels of chlorpyrifos—levels far lower than what EPA was previously using to establish safety standards—harms babies permanently. EPA prohibited the indoor use of Chlorpyrifos in 2001, due to the unacceptable risk to children’s health. In November 2016, EPA released a revised human health risk assessment for chlorpyrifos that confirmed that there are no safe uses for the pesticide.

Despite the overwhelming scientific evidence that chlorpyrifos poses an unacceptable risk to public health, the federal government has not moved forward with a ban on chlorpyrifos. This legislation would ban the use of chlorpyrifos in New York State to protect public health.

CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS
A.2477 / S.2156 – CHLORPYRIFOS BAN

CCE is an 80,000 member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment

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