MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Child Safe Products Act

A.6296 – Englebright (No Same As)

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to regulation of toxic chemicals in children’s products.

JUSTIFICATION
Currently, New York identifies or prohibits the use of dangerous chemicals on a chemical by chemical basis. This approach is especially problematic for children's products, since children are more susceptible to the harmful effects of smaller amounts of chemicals than adults, due to their developing systems and hand to mouth behavior. Children exposed to small amounts of toxic chemicals at crucial periods of development can face long term effects including increased risk of certain types of cancer, respiratory diseases, learning and developmental disabilities, infertility, and reproductive dysfunction.

California, Minnesota, Maine, Oregon, Vermont and Washington have adopted more comprehensive chemical policies for children’s products. This legislation is modeled after those states and allows DEC to take a comprehensive approach to regulating and banning dangerous chemicals in children’s products.

SUMMARY OF KEY PROVISIONS
- Applies to products intended for children 12 and under, such as baby products, toys, car seats, personal care products, teething, sleeping products, feeding, bedding, furniture, furnishings, children’s apparel.
- Creates a list of chemicals of high concern and requires disclosure of these chemicals in children’s products.
- Allows DEC, in consultation with the Department of Health, to periodically review the list of dangerous chemicals and chemicals of concern to identify or remove dangerous chemicals or chemicals of concern based on credible scientific evidence.
- Prohibits the sale, effective January 1, 2023, of children's products containing certain dangerous chemicals (including asbestos, lead, and mercury).