

## Senate Majority Office

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Oregon Senate Passes Toxic-Free Kids Act Expansion

House Bill 3043 will allow OHA to better regulate chemicals in products for kids

**SALEM**, **Ore** - Today the Oregon Senate passed <u>House Bill 3043</u> to expand the Toxic-Free Kids Act which will reduce exposure to toxic chemicals from products marketed for children.

In 2015, the Toxic Free Kids Act was passed to keep every kid in Oregon safe and healthy. Since then <u>more than 4,000 reports</u> have been filed with the Oregon Health Authority on chemicals of concern in kids' products.

"I am incredibly concerned about kids being exposed to dangerous, even carcinogenic, chemicals, in their toys," said **Senator Janeen Sollman, who was a chief sponsor of the bill**. "Consumer protection starts with empowering families to make informed choices about the products they bring into their homes."

"HB 3043 builds on the success of Oregon's Toxic Free Kids Act by strengthening protections for children's health and improving transparency around chemicals in affected toys or other products," said **Senator Deb Patterson, who was a chief sponsor of the bill and carried it on the Senate floor**. "Right now, <u>OHA is limited to adding five chemicals to their list every three years.</u> They need to be able to keep up with the market to keep our kids safe."

Promoting a clean and safe environment is part of <u>Senate Democrats' 2023 Oregon Works</u> agenda.

HB 3043 is one of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and delivering results for the people of Oregon, HB 3043 now moves to the Governor's desk for consideration.

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