

Vela, Monet@OEHHA

Subject: FW: We deserve the right-to-know when our food contains toxic chemicals like BPA -- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Announcement of Public Hearing Amendment to Section 25603.3, Title 27, California Code of Regulations, Warnings for Exposures to Bispheno

From: Chris Lish [<mailto:lishchris@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 6:52 AM

To: P65Public Comments <P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov>

Subject: We deserve the right-to-know when our food contains toxic chemicals like BPA -- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Announcement of Public Hearing Amendment to Section 25603.3, Title 27, California Code of Regulations, Warnings for Exposures to Bisphenol...

Monday, September 26, 2016

Monet Vela
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
P. O. Box 4010
Sacramento, California 95812-4010

Subject: We deserve the right-to-know when our food contains toxic chemicals like BPA -- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Announcement of Public Hearing Amendment to Section 25603.3, Title 27, California Code of Regulations, Warnings for Exposures to Bisphenol A from Canned and Bottled Foods and Beverages

Dear Ms. Vela,

I am disappointed that the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is proposing to continue to allow food companies to keep us in the dark about the toxic chemical Bisphenol A (BPA) in canned foods. Food companies have known for more than a year that the warning law was coming, yet the proposal would give them until December 2017 to inform us when their products expose us to this dangerous chemical.

BPA is known to cause birth defects and has been linked to breast cancer, prostate cancer, obesity, diabetes and numerous other serious health concerns. Given that many companies have already eliminated BPA from their canned foods, the state's proposal is unfair both to consumers and to these responsible businesses.

Food labels are the "clear and reasonable" way to inform consumers when products can expose us to BPA. It is simply unreasonable to require that consumers:

1. see small signs posted at cash registers;
2. have access to a smart phone; and
3. search a public database to ensure the product they selected doesn't have BPA all while waiting in line to pay for their groceries.

Experience and common sense suggest that most consumers will remain uninformed by these methods. Consumers need the information on products while they're in the aisles selecting products.

“Do not suffer your good nature, when application is made, to say ‘Yes’ when you should say ‘No’. Remember, it is a public not a private cause that is to be injured or benefited by your choice.”

-- George Washington

I urge the OEHHA to withdraw this irresponsible proposal and enforce the law that requires all companies to warn us when their products expose us to BPA by labeling products now.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,
Christopher Lish
San Rafael, CA