

Konrad Jackson

From: nikos pastos [nikospastos@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 2:28 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Dan Saddler; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Bob Miller; Rep. Mike Chenault
Cc: Rep. Lindsey Holmes
Subject: I support HB 63 - Preventing Toxic Exposures Bill. Please support public health in Alaska.

From: Nikos Pastos
8101` Peck Avenue #M-88
Anchorage, AK 99504
907-333-3009

To: House Labor and Commerce Committee Members, Kurt Olson, Dan Saddler, Steve Thompson, Bob Miller;

We urge you to support HB 63, the Preventing Toxic Exposures Bill.

Our family thinks this is a necessary bill to protect public health throughout Alaska.

WHY SHOULD ALASKANS BE CONCERNED ABOUT THESE CHEMICALS?

- PBDEs are widely used in a variety of consumer products. PBDEs are found in electronics, such as TVs, and used in some furniture foams, fabrics, and kitchen appliances.
- PBDEs are persistent bioaccumulative toxics that are having a profound effect on the environment and human health, particularly in Alaska and the Arctic. They accumulate and are long lasting.
- PBDEs interfere with thyroid function, cause problems with brain development, and disrupt learning, memory and behavior. They are largely unregulated in the U.S., thus increasing exponentially in the environment, wildlife, and people through widespread releases and exposures in the home, workplace, and foods. Babies are exposed in their mother's womb and through breast milk.
- Women from the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta of Alaska have the highest level of any population in the Arctic.

THE SOLUTION?

House Bill 63 will phase out the use, sale and manufacture of products containing PBDEs by 2013. This bill will also allow DEC to work with other state agencies to share information; and directs DEC to compile a list of chemicals of concern.

Sincerely,

Pastos family
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Anchorage, AK 99504