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You know, I think last year when we talked about food farming jobs, there's a FSIS that have to be followed. Are there similar standards for this?

GARY PROCTOR: Yes. Yeah. Absolutely. Federal regulations also.

REP. HURLBURT: So as long as we're in -- if we comply with the feds, we're asking for you guys to be able to sell directly to the food establishments.

GARY PROCTOR: Correct.

REP. HURLBURT: Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Representative Hurlburt.

GARY PROCTOR: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. We are now moving to the bisphenol A bill, Senate Bill 210. We have, I guess, about 16 witnesses on this bill and we're going to lead off the distinguished representative of the Sierra Club, Marty Mador.

MARTIN MADOR: Thank you, Senator. Good afternoon, members of the committee. I'm Martin Mador. I'm the legislative chair for the Connecticut Sierra Club. The Sierra Club believes that the intentional introduction of toxics into our environment is a significant environmental issue and appropriately within the scope of our advocacy agenda.

So speaking on Bill 210. It's commonly accepted now that bisphenol A is a threat to our health. The chemical has been linked to a

range of problems including reproductive disorders, endocrine disorders, cancer, brain development and fat metabolism. The Legislature has already recognized this with passage of Public Act 09103, banning bisphenol A in children's products.

We now understand that thermal register receipt paper is a significant transmittal medium for BPA. The BPA used in printing the text on the paper is not actually bound into the paper so that it easily transfers to anything that comes into contact with the register paper, mainly people's skin. So this is a significant method by way BPA gets transferred to people and absorbed into our bodies. Anybody who has ever accepted a register receipt in a store which is printed with this thermal mechanism, which is really what's in use now in retail, has been exposed to BPA.

The bill is another in a series of important legislative actions to reduce our exposure to toxic substances. Because alternatives are now under development Senate Bill 210 allows a lead time of several years to give industry an adequate window in order to finish the research and to switch to a safer alternative. This may be considered somewhat generous, but it does recognize the need to balance the immediate environmental health needs with industry's lead time to convert non-toxic practices and materials.

Now with regard to the second half of the bill, the 1976 Federal Toxic Substances Control Act, or TSCA has really failed in its mission to identify toxic chemicals and to result in their environment. TSCA has only led to the identification of a handful of chemicals so it's now up to the states to

really take this over until the federal government gets its act together.

The Legislature created the Chemical Innovations Institute last year when Public Act 10164 to provide an expert resource on toxic substances and safer alternatives. To be very clear, the institute based at UConn must seek it's own funding. It does not receive funding from the state government. There was no question about that. There was a lot of debate when the bill was running about whether it would receive state money. It does not. It must find its own funding.

We think this bill is an appropriate addition to the institute's list of tasks that it can do. It's non-directive as to how the institute should carry out this request. There's no connection between what the institute is going to produce an specific legislation. It simply is going to be reporting annually to the Legislature.

We suggest that when it brings its report back here, the report not only go to the Environment Committee, but the committee with cognizance of public health which, of course, is also known as the Public Health Committee, meaning that would also be an appropriate committee to receive this report.

The Legislature is then free to do whatever it likes with the chemicals on this annual report that at least we now have a list from an expert and trusted source of what the most toxic substances are that perhaps we should be looking at.

We specifically refer you to the well-crafted testimony of Dr. Tim Morse, who's director of the institute. We subscribe fully to his

testimony and recommend that the committee work closely with Dr. Morse to continue the process of defining the institute's role and its activities. Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Marty.

Going back to the bisphenol A part of this bill, I want to be sure I understand what thermal receipt paper is. It's what? When you go to a grocery store and you buy and they give you a slip with the amount of your bill to pay for what you bought? Is that the thermal receipt paper?

MARTIN MADOR: Yes. And many retail stores now print their receipts, not with the old-fashioned impact printing with an actual ink ribbon, but with this thermal printing that develops the image on the paper of what you actually purchased and what it costs. So it's found commonly in many retail outlets.

SENATOR MEYER: And the paper is kicked out by a machine and it's called thermal?

MARTIN MADOR: Correct. Correct. My expertise reaches a peak here.

SENATOR MEYER: Right.

MARTIN MADOR: But my understanding is yes, it is thermal imaging paper. And fortunately I get to be the leadoff cheerleader on the bill. There are many people who are going to follow me with a lot of expertise that you really should be paying attention to.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay.

MARTIN MADOR: Yes, it is known as thermal.

SENATOR MEYER: I hope other witnesses are listening to that. The committee has got to understand what this paper is.

MARTIN MADOR: Well, I don't want to put them under any pressure here, but there are many people you're going to hear from with significant expertise here beyond my own.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Are there questions by the committee?

Thank you, Marty.

MARTIN MADOR: Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Our next witness is Mary Jane Williams followed by Tom Kemble and then Gretchen Raffa.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony. I'm Mary Jane Williams, current chairperson (inaudible). SB210

I also serve as co-policy -- cochair of policy and advocacy for the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments at the national level. I have practiced nursing for over 45 years and have I thought in the private and public sector for 35.

The Connecticut Nurses Association speaks in strong support of a mandate which would phase out bisphenol A for use of safer alternatives that are already available. BPA thermal receipt paper is used as a developer on some thermal receipt paper. It is commonly found in labels, tickets and tags. Examples include supermarket labels, event tickets,

airplane/airline baggage, gas station receipts, clothing store receipts are printed on thermal paper.

There are reports out that thermal paper has been linked with absorption of bisphenol A, the seemingly ubiquitous estrogen-mimicking hormone disruptor. The study's authors recommend that pregnant women stay away from thermal receipt paper and wash their hands after handling it. BPA absorption is also linked to sexual dysfunction in men. Multiple studies find the highest level of concentration of BPA in cashiers, a job market dominated by women.

Since 1950, 82,000 chemicals have been introduced into commerce and are found in the products that we use every day. Only a handful of these chemicals have been tested for safety because the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act, TSCA, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency must prove that chemicals cause a reasonable risk to health before it can be regulated. As a result of this burden, the EPA has only been able to regulate five chemicals. And let it be noted that in the European Union they regulate all the chemicals and are testing all chemicals. They do not have to prove reasonable risk.

I just -- I'll close in saying that related to the Chemical Innovations Institute, CNA believes the initial goals set forth by the institute are essential to the State of Connecticut. If we intend to be competitive on a global marketplace, in order to accomplish these goals volunteers who staff the institute must find funding -- a yeoman's job -- in this economy.

It would therefore be beneficial to adhere to the primary goals that were set for the institute until the institute is properly funded and utilize the coalition and many other chemical institutes that have information available, to gather the information that we need to bring forward a list of toxic chemicals as they are published and shared by others.

There are multiple resources that gather scientific information available. We urge you to support the legislation related to BPA as it is essential to the health of the public and to reconsider the measures for the institute.

Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Good advocacy.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Questions from the committee?

Yes. Representative Piscopo.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Mr. chairman.

Good afternoon. I'm sorry. I didn't get your testimony. Are you part of the institute.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: No. Actually, I am the Chair of government relations for the Connecticut Nurses Association and I am also cochair of policy and advocacy at the federal level for the Alliance for Nurses for Healthy Environments.

So I'm actually working at the federal level to see that the -- if TSCA comes out this year it will do what we want it to do. So that's

where I come from, but I'm part of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you. I'm sorry I missed your introduction.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: That's all right.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Representative.

Any other questions or comments.

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. chairman. And good afternoon.

Are there any statistics on this?

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: There are a lot of statistics. I don't have them in my testimony.

REP. L. MILLER: Federal statistics?

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: There are statistics that have come out of research. And I'm going defer again to my colleagues because they probably have more of the statistics, but yes there are. There is.

There's a lot of research that's been done on the chemical effects with animals, but you know, because of human subjects, we don't do this type of research on human beings. So we don't have, you know, the cause-and-effect related to human beings.

But let it be noted -- I'm reading the New York Times today and China has just put out a whole issue related to hexane. And the employees that are making the iPods, the iPads, are being all infected with hexane from

the glass. And they're getting very ill. So there's cause-and-effect.

Now we're saying it's China, but the fact is, is that we have the same exposures in this country and we are exposing the public to these chemicals that we know are endocrine disruptors.

REP. L. MILLER: I know that cancer statistics, Connecticut rates higher than the national average.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: Right.

REP. L. MILLER: But mainly I think it's because we're between New York and Boston and the amount of traffic that comes through our State.

Thank you very much. Thank you.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: Well, I'll make one comment to that. As somebody who grew up in a town that's a Superfund site that has a really high incidence of cancers, cluster cancers, I would disagree that it's all related to the air that comes across our state.

I would think it's due to the contamination of the Quinnipiac River that occurred when all the industry dumped their pollutants into the water. And that's one of the reasons I have the impetus for being involved in environmental health.

REP. L. MILLER: Okay. I also live in a super site -- a Superfund site and I can't get any statistics on asbestos-related diseases in the town of Stratford, because they don't have them. So you know, there's a comparison there.

But thank you so much.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS: There is a comparison. You're welcome.

Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, again.

Our next witness is Tom Kemble. Afternoon, Mr. Kemble.

TOM KEMBLE: Good afternoon, members of the committee. My name is Tom Kemble from the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice, here to testify in support of S.B. 210. You've already been beautifully apprized of the hazards of BPA. I just want to add a couple of notes here.

One, BPA is particularly dangerous to small children. And not only that, but it is very easily transmitted from the thermal paper, the lottery tickets, the cash receipts and whatnot that you all -- that comes in contact with ordinary hand-to-hand currency, dollar bills that you stash in your purse, wallets, pockets and whatnot. And so it goes home, and particularly it goes to the homes of low-income people who tend to man the cash registers.

Now -- so I want to give out a cheer to the Chemical Innovations Institute established by the Legislature last year under the direction of Professor Tim Morse. It's already been noted that he receives no funding from the Legislature. But really the Legislature ought to bear in mind that any dollar spent by the institute will repay the State manyfold. Professor Morris' e-mail address is given in

my electronically transmitted testimony. And he welcomes questions and suggestions.

Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Mr. Kemble.

You know, when we introduced the Chemical Innovations Institute bill last year, it would have been if we used state funds to fund that institute and its studies. It would have had a big fiscal note and that was our concern last year. And it remains unfortunately our concern again this year.

We'll come out of this at some point, but we're really looking for outside funding either from the federal government or from foundations and I -- you recognized the issue and I urge your help in getting those funds so that we have an organization that can really investigate toxic chemicals and give reports to the State Legislature.

TOM KEMBLE: Thank you. I would add one other note. The Washington Toxics Coalition, in their December 2010 report, lays out very nicely where this thermal receipt paper comes from. It just makes paper cheaper, basically. And they found this out a few years ago. So thermal paper was born. So that is all I have to say now.

SENATOR MEYER: Any questions?

Yes. Representative Wright.

REP. C. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Kemble, I just have one question. Do you know are there any other states that have this same law? Or would Connecticut be the first?

TOM KEMBLE: I didn't understand your question.

REP. C. WRIGHT: Are there any other states that currently ban the BPA in thermal paper? Or would this be a first in the nation?

TOM KEMBLE: I'm not sure that I know the answer to that question. I'm sorry. I imagine the Washington Toxics Coalition could give you the answer. It's readily available for free. You can Google it and bring it up immediately.

REP. C. WRIGHT: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Any other questions or comments?

Thank you very much, Mr. Kemble.

Our next witness is Gretchen Raffa. I think she stepped out. Next will be Pamela Puchalski. I'm not sure I'm pronouncing that right.

PAMELA PUCHALSKI: Good afternoon Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, members of the Environment Committee. My name is Pamela Puchalski and I am the coordinator for the Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health, also known as ConnectiCOSH, safer chemicals in the workplace campaign that focuses on chemical policy reforms in Connecticut.

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We are keenly aware of and strongly support the need to ban bisphenol A from thermal paper receipts and we ask that you do so as well. We also strongly believe in the need to develop and organize a comprehensive approach to identifying and phasing out those chemicals that, while commonly used, are being linked to various cancers, reproductive and

neurodegenerative disorders and learning disabilities.

In the case of BPA we know that it is an endocrine disorder. It's also been associated with breast and prostate cancers, learning and behavioral disorders, insulin resistance, diabetes, obesity, reproductive disorders, erectile dysfunction and cardiovascular disease.

Although the Connecticut Legislature has banned it in baby bottles and other food storage containers, it has been found in high levels on thermal paper cash receipts, unbound and easily transmitted to our hands and other objects that the receipts come in contact with.

Pregnant women, be they cashiers or consumers, will be exposing their unborn fetuses, the most susceptible of us to the dangers of BPA by simply handling the receipts as human skin can absorb the unbound BPA.

More than 82,000 synthetic chemicals have been produced for use in the United States since World War II. Only a small number of these have been adequately tested for their potential impact on the workers who use them and the consumers who purchase products containing them. OSHA has adopted workplace exposure limits for approximately only 7 percent of the chemicals used in the U.S. in high volume. And the U.S. has only phased out five substances out of those approximately 80,000 in commerce.

Workers who regularly come in contact with dangerous substances, such as cashiers who regularly handle BPA laden receipts, and who therefore receive a higher dose than the

general public, will ultimately bear a disproportionate share of the adverse impacts of products made with toxic chemicals. A conservatively estimated 50 to 60 thousand deaths occur in our country each year due to occupational toxic chemical exposures and other occupational illnesses. This was a study in 2003.

Toxic chemicals and heavy metals are widely used in products in industry threaten health and child development. The President's Cancer panel found in 2010 that human exposure to harmful chemicals has been grossly underestimated and here in Connecticut, one of the largest occupational epidemiology studies in the U.S. is currently assessing the links between chemical exposures in the workplace and a rare form of brain cancer.

Diseases associated with toxic chemicals are costly both to the individual and to our society as a whole. And again, as previous individuals testifying stated, the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act has not done its job. We should support a comprehensive approach to identifying and phasing out toxic chemicals here on the state level.

Thank you very much.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you. It was very informative.

Any questions by the committee.

Thank you, Ms. Puchalski.

Our next witness is Tim Morse followed by Noele Kidney. Afternoon, Tim.

TIM MORSE: Afternoon. Good afternoon, Senator

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Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the committee. I'm Tim Morse, I'm a Professor and director of the Chemical Innovations Institute and the UConn Health Center. And thank you for this opportunity to testify on Senate bill 210.

I'm testifying in support of the concepts in Senate Bill 210 and would like to provide suggestions that I think might strengthen the approach, particularly in regard to the role of the institute. But I greatly congratulate this committee and the State of Connecticut for your nationally recognized leadership role in the adoption of safer alternatives to toxic chemicals. And this bill is a good representation of that approach.

There's a great need for comprehensive chemical reform due to a large number of toxic chemicals and the gaps in information and control for those chemicals. I've provided written testimony that goes into some of those details. I'll just summarize a few of those points in my oral testimony.

The institute was formed last year to provide research, education and training for businesses in the community to promote the use of safer alternatives. And as other speakers have noted, there wasn't any state funding provided for. We're seeking funding. We're hopeful of finding funding. We've submitted a couple of grant applications and come up short so far, but are hopeful that we'll find some fruition soon on that.

And we appreciate the committee's foresight in providing an escape clause that says that if we don't find funding, that we don't have to perform the duties of the bill, and would like that to be applied to this revision. It

appears that it is, from my reading of the statute.

In regard to the role of the institute, there's a request for us to put together a list of high-priority toxic chemicals and provide them to the Legislature. And I think this is a really useful thing. It's important to get lists of high-priority chemicals and adopt an approach that's more than just a substance-by-substance approach to dealing with chemicals, although that's also important. And, you know, as bisphenol A approach is also very useful.

We'd like to work with the committee to optimize the role of the institute in this process. Given our strength and research in education rather than regulation, an historical focus on the workplace use of chemicals, our role in working with businesses to reduce the use of toxic chemicals, and reliance on grants and fund-raising to advance the area.

Just to summarize the suggestions, first is that I think the best approach would be a study approach where we would work with our board of directors that's been appointed by the Legislature and the cognitive state agencies to see if we can come up with a consensus on existing lists of chemicals that might be useful for Connecticut to adopt.

We think that an annual reporting would be difficult, particularly given the lack of dedicated state funding to that project. And the requests for providing a list of safer alternatives I think is a complicated issue that we need to explore further.

Because you know, if you assume a list, say,

you know, some of the lists in Maine or the syn-list from the (inaudible) lawn, Europe for example, are hundreds of chemicals. And you're talking about certainly thousands, probably tens of thousands of common applications for that. Safer alternatives are very specific to the applications, so you can't just say, from, you know, from benzine, substitute MEK or substitute, you know, some generic form of that. So I think we'd like to again work with you on trying to figure out how to do that.

And I'm happy to take any questions.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Professor.

We're kind of caught in a dilemma here. There's a great deal of energy and motivation on the part of many advocates in the State as well as this committee to deal with toxic chemicals. And some states like Washington have moved forward very aggressively on it to.

We were going, sort of, chemical by chemical. You know, we started, I guess, with lead and then we went to pesticides and cadmium and bisphenol A. And we realized, the committee realized last year that this was kind of an inadequate approach. And that if we created an organization that could -- that had a representative board, represented business representative of scholarly science and so forth, that we could deal with the bigger problem than one chemical a year.

And we didn't have the funds, very frankly, in our budget then or probably this year. And so we said, within available appropriations, and we hoped the institute could raise the funds. And I just want to say as a member of this committee, anything this committee can do to

help raise funds -- and you're the director of the institute, you know, we're there for you. We will meet with and foundations, you know.

TIM MORSE: We'll take you up on that.

SENATOR MEYER: We're really, you know, I'm very available and I'm sure most of the committee is very available to do that.

But let me ask you a specific question. With respect to the second part of this bill, Senate Bill 210, it has a directive to the institute, and which is going to require some study and a report, an annual report. Are you able to do that?

TIM MORSE: While I think that we would be able, assuming we could locate some funds. And I think that this directive is something that we could use in trying to find funds. So I think it would be contingent on that, certainly, because it's a significant amount of staff time.

But I think that the structure of the institute is probably well suited for doing this. And doing it in a year's time, you know, given the need to find common ground between the different interests that are on the board and, you know, trying to figure out the best approach to that, you know, might take some time, but I think it's manageable to do that. Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Well, that's very encouraging. I mean, part of the health future of Connecticut is in your hands. And -- sorry to put you under pressure -- but, you know, science is increasingly indicating we have some problems and they emerge later in life. You don't really know that exposure is

going to lead to a problem until maybe 10, 20, 30 years later.

TIM MORSE: Yes. I think that the only way of doing it in a reasonable fashion in a reasonable time is not to think of the de novo list, but to look at the list that have been created through, you know -- and that are being done through the Interstate Chemical Clearinghouse for example, that Connecticut is a part of, and other states like Maine and Washington. And looking at the list that they have done and bringing forward a recommendation to use something that's derived from those kinds of lists.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. And you'll see in the bill that we suggested that you be able to call on other studies and that would be of influence here.

TIM MORSE: Absolutely.

SENATOR MEYER: Good.

Representative Hurlburt.

REP. HURLBURT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

And professor, thank you so much for working with us last year on getting the innovations institute up -- I shouldn't say up and running yet.

TIM MORSE: (inaudible).

REP. HURLBURT: But we would like to get it up and running.

You mentioned Maine and Washington as two other states that are really, you know, national leaders on this. Are they a

state-funded or are they a private or a research-institution funded. Where do they get their funding?

TIM MORSE: (Inaudible) the state government, typically through the DEP working with DPH, is the typical mechanism that, if I'm recalling correctly, that both Maine and Washington have used.

REP. HURLBURT: I believe we referenced Massachusetts a lot last year when we were talking about this bill. Are they state-funded also?

TIM MORSE: Yes. The Toxic Use Reduction Institute has a state mandate where they assess a fee of chemical users and producers. And that fee is used to fund it, but it runs through the Legislature, so it's legislatively approved.

REP. HURLBURT: Okay. Okay. And it was a year ago and a lot has happened since then. And so -- but I believe I remember a lot of the discussions we were having was that given that we have a few other states in the nation we have reach, you know, across the Atlantic that are, you know, doing a lot of this work that our innovations institute would be able to piggyback on their findings.

Are we unable to do that until we have -- we secure -- until the innovations institute secures some outside funding?

TIM MORSE: We have very limited capacity. So all of our -- we're a soft-funded department so basically we have very little state funding for any of our group. And so they're assigned to particular research projects. It's difficult to find extensive amount of time.

There's certainly some information that could come back, but you know, I would hesitate to give it an authoritative approval without a fairly extensive process that would probably involve you know, using our board and, you know, talking to a wide variety of people that are engaged in -- and organizations that are engaged in this. So it's really a time issue of trying to filter through those things.

I think that both Maine and Washington used pretty good approaches in coming up with their list. So I mean, I suppose there's a simple answer of saying, you know, we can look at one of those and say, could we use one of those here? That would take less time. But to kind of work that the process, I think, is the time commitment. And I'm hopeful that we can find some funding so that we would be able to do this.

REP. HURLBURT: I am too. And the discussions we had was if we create this -- las year, again -- if we create this institute and give it, you know, statutory authority and create -- that it would make it easier for you and the members to go out and find, you know, private or nonprofit funding.

Has that been the case? Or is there just no funds available?

TIM MORSE: No. That has been the case.

REP. HURLBURT: Okay.

TIM MORSE: You know, we did a grant application to the Donahue Foundation, for example, and became one of four finalists, but they only gave out one award. And that was, you know, the effect that we had this momentum, that we had this support from the Legislature, was a

key piece of the appeal. Because it wasn't the kind of grant program that would typically fund this kind of project.

So that clearly has been the case and, you know, we've been working to put together the board and now we're putting together, kind of, a business plan and an approach to going to foundations and looking for other grant sources. So it definitely is helpful.

REP. HURLBURT: Great. Great. And I think, you know, that I'm very proud that we're able to create the institute last year. And I think, you know, it is the right step.

And I agree with Senator Meyers' statements that, you know, the Legislature isn't the best place to have these individual battles that we need. We need, you know, academia. We need the business community to work together and bring those instead of having a battle on individual by individual chemicals.

So I think, you know, the more we can do this year to strengthen you guys to give you the tools you need and the ability to be successful is very important. So thank you for all of your hard work. Hopefully, next year I'll say, and running, and we can talk about the next step. So --

TIM MORSE: I do, too.

REP. HURLBURT: Thank you, professor.

And thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Representative Hurlburt. Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS: Hi. Hi, Tim. Nice to see you.

TIM MORSE: You too.

REP. WILLIS: I have some concerns about expanding the institute's responsibilities when it's really unclear at this time where the resources are going to be coming from.

One of the things we talked about last year was the research education and training to Connecticut businesses. Have -- and the possibility that you might get a fee or some sort of financial assistance if you were helping a manufacturing company coming up with a safer alternative for them. Is that something that has been pursued?

TIM MORSE: It's something that we're -- we've started to pursue. That kind of comes through some board initiatives and some conversations that are there, but the board -- it took a long time to get the board constituted, so we're in the process of doing that outreach. We haven't had any success there as yet, but there's certainly discussion going on around that.

And to some extent you do have a chicken and egg problem in the sense that if you don't have some seed money to kind of develop staff and projects and have time to do that interaction, that it becomes more difficult to obtain that funding and to show what the benefits would be of investing in the institute.

REP. WILLIS: So that's why the grant monies are so critically important --

TIM MORSE: Yes. Exactly.

REP. WILLIS: -- for you to be in a position to go

to the next step, and that's to reach out to businesses.

TIM MORSE: Exactly.

REP. WILLIS: You're really not equipped to do this at this point. I guess that leads me back to us setting expectations too high for you.

TIM MORSE: Uh-huh.

REP. WILLIS: Stretching your resources at this time when we really don't have anything in place right now for the institute. So we may be setting ourselves up for high expectations that are really, you know, unrealistic for you to reach in terms of coming up with a list.

I was wondering if there was a way to maybe move this into different pieces, like, in other words, there are parts of this that are really doable now this year. Do you feel comfortable with and do you feel there are parts of it that maybe we should do separately or we should wait for? Are we jumping the gun here, I guess?

TIM MORSE: Well, I have the same concerns obviously in terms of resources that we have available and we are in startup mode. You know, a longer time horizon might be helpful and, you know, and being able to kind of develop. You know, when you're talking about applying for federal funds, you're talking about, you know, a year-long process. When you're going to foundations it's shorter than that, but you're still talking certainly months.

And so being able to find funding and get up and running and come back with a report by, you know, next December, would be certainly a

stretch. You know, we might be able to give some initial indications in relation to existing lists that are out there, but it would be difficult to do a full-blown study in that length of time.

REP. WILLIS: One more question, Mr. Chairman?

Going back to the bill's reference to eliminating the use of bisphenol A in thermal paper.

TIM MORSE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

REP. WILLIS: Aren't we in a way by putting that in here doing a ban one by one instead of a list? I mean, what's your reaction to --

TIM MORSE: Well, I think that both approaches are valuable. You know, and you can be much more specific around, you know, these kinds of things, you know, that where there are just uses that just look like they're, you know, kind of a patently wrong approach to dealing with chemical exposures. And that raises visibility of the issue.

I think it underlines the need for more comprehensive reform, but when you have -- I think you probably will still have situations where there are particular applications of particular chemicals and there are, you know, available alternative approaches, safer alternatives that might require a case-by-case action.

I think that, you know, kind of reducing the use of BPA and setting the precedent, this would be the first state law on thermal paper -- are useful to do.

REP. WILLIS: Thank you very much.

And thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Representative Piscopo.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Good afternoon, Professor.

TIM MORSE: Hi.

REP. PISCOPO: When we are debating the bill last year you were saying that, you know, did the university step up and just offer you the office? Is that how it worked?

TIM MORSE: Well, they offered me the title, I suppose. I already had the office.

REP. PISCOPO: Oh, so the institute is working out of your office at the University of Connecticut in Farmington.

TIM MORSE: Correct. Yes.

REP. PISCOPO: Okay. On Senate Bill 210 what's the -- tell me how this works. Was the fair here, that you take the ATM receipt and it goes through your skin into your system? Is that basically the --

TIM MORSE: Yes. I'm not an expert on this, but my understanding is that the -- it's the free BPA, that's the thermal medium so that when you apply to heat to that it results in ink, you know, so visible words. And so because it's, you know, and you can kind of feel it on that thermal paper, like the old fax machine kind of paper or, you know, kind of the certain types of register receipts. And that

dust has been demonstrated in some studies to get transferred to the skin. It also can get absorbed through the skin.

And in the studies that have been looking at some of the national data -- and HANS, for example, does the national study that does some body burning monitoring -- found that people in sales occupations have higher levels of BPA than people that weren't -- in their bloodstream, than people that weren't in those occupations.

So you know, there's some evidence from the occupational that it does get absorbed into the bloodstream in measurable quantities. And the levels seem to be at problem levels, particularly if you have, you know, pregnant sales workers or, you know, people that are otherwise more vulnerable.

REP. PISCOPO: You cited the study that -- it's called a HANS study?

TIM MORSE: NHANS, the National Health and Nutrition Study. It's an annual national study that is done by the National Center for Health Statistics. And they -- it's a very comprehensive physical exam and they do blood analysis and so on. And they've done some BPA analysis as part of that.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you. I'll look it up.

It was mentioned in earlier testimony that you -- we were provided a ten-year kind of transition period so that we could give the industry a chance to get on its feet and find alternatives, maybe cost effective alternatives. But I don't see that in the bill.

As I read the bill, it says, on or after October 1st, 13, no person shall manufacture, sell, offer or distribute in this state any thermal receipt paper. That's not ten years. That seems to be just two years down the road.

Do you have a comment? Are you suggesting that we maybe amend the bill to allow a ten-year?

TIM MORSE: I didn't write that language. I'm not sure what the most reasonable timeframe is. You probably would need to hear from some of the retail establishments in terms of, you know, what the -- how manageable it is.

But there clearly are options that are available, you know. In the studies that have been done about half of the receipts have detectable BPA and half of them don't. So there, you know, they're in commerce already with these kinds of machines, but they would need to replace the machines that they have. So there certainly would be some transition time that would be needed.

REP. PISCOPO: Yeah. I would think so. More than two years, huh? More than two years.

TIM MORSE: I mean, two years may be sufficient for that. It's, you know, it's pretty old technology. Those things get replaced on a fairly regular basis. There are certainly, newer technologies, and even nonprint technologies, you know, smart phone techniques and other things that can get pulled in.

You know, there might be some -- I mean, you could explore possibilities for it being an affirmative thing, unless someone appeals and says that they aren't able to do it for some reason and can show why. Or -- I mean, there

may be some ways of working with at that, but I wasn't involved with that particular language.

REP. PISCOPO: And it's part of the existing law now, that we -- that you offer, you know, the importance to the economy, you know, like, what -- how much this will cost to make this transition. And you know, offer technical assistance and I'm sure you're doing all that with this, if this particular bill goes into effect. Or maybe you should have done it before this bill comes before us.

TIM MORSE: Yeah. Our -- the institute hasn't been working on this particular issue. So I'm cognizant of the issue, but we haven't been working on this particular issue as the institute.

REP. PISCOPO: Oh, so the -- I'm not sure I understand, Professor.

TIM MORSE: So the Chemical Innovations Institute is -- we're working towards providing help to industries to identify safer alternatives and provide it. And so we're gearing up to do that, you know, we're, again with this funding problem, we're still in the gearing up stage. And so you know, we haven't done any of that analysis in relation to BPA specifically --

REP. PISCOPO: So you're not taking a stand specifically on the ban on the thermal paper of the BPA? You're not? This institute is not taking a specific stand on that part of the bill then?

TIM MORSE: We haven't studied that extensively, I think. From a personal standpoint, from what I've read, I think it's a good approach. But from the institute's standpoint, we haven't

done a study and worked on that issue.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Professor.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, thank you very much, sir.

TIM MORSE: Thank you.

REP. ROY: Noele Kidney followed by Gretchen Raffa, who I'm told is back in the room.

NOELE KIDNEY: Good afternoon.

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and honorable members of the Environment Committee, my name is Noele Kidney and I am the project coordinator for the Connecticut Public Health Association. And I Am here in support of Senate Bill 210.

For over 90 years the Connecticut Public Health Association has been committed to improving the quality of the public health profession and advocating for policies and programs to promote health -- the health profession -- and advocating for policies and programs to promote health and prevent disease.

CPHA has more than 300 members representing a wide variety of disciplines, all united in the goal of protecting and promoting the public's health. Our mission statement at CPHA states that we are to represent and unite the diverse expertise of Connecticut's public health professionals to improve the most pressing

public health issues in the state and to promote healthy and safe living by the people of Connecticut.

CPHA supports Senate Bill 210 because banning the chemical bisphenol A, or BPA from thermal paper -- thermal receipt paper does promote health and safe living for the people of Connecticut. BPA is a known endocrine disruptor.

The Environmental Protection Agency website describes this as a chemical that mimics a natural hormone, therefore fooling the body into overresponding or responding at inappropriate times. BPA exposure has been linked to early-onset puberty in girls, breast and prostate cancers and numerous reproductive disorders. Given this and since BPA and thermal receipt paper easily transmits through skin, CPHA believes it is very important to eliminate BPA exposure to the public.

Two years ago Connecticut took an important step to protect children against the dangers of BPA with broad support on both sides of the aisle. I urge the members of this committee to support Senate Bill 210 because further legislation is needed to protect consumers from toxic chemical exposure.

I thank you for your time.

REP. ROY: Thank you, Noele.

Any Questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, very good.

NOELE KIDNEY: Thank you.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Gretchen Raffa followed by Eric Brown.

GRETCHEN RAFFA: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative -- I have more to say.

Good afternoon, members of the Environment Committee. Thank you for hearing my testimony. My name is Gretchen Raffa from Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, testifying in support of S.B. 210.

Planned Parenthood of Southern New England's mission is to protect the right of all individuals to control their own fertility. And over the past decade new studies continue to demonstrate that environmental contaminants and exposure to chemicals can have detrimental effects on one's reproductive health.

And as a trusted provider of women's health to over 70,000 patients every year, we're committed to educating ourselves and patients about the dangers and health risks from exposure to chemicals such as bisphenol A for women and their families.

As the last speaker referenced there's growing scientific evidence that shows industrial chemicals such as BPA can mimic natural estrogen and studies demonstrate that chemical -- that the chemical is harmful at both low and high doses of exposure, and that the timing of the exposure during critical windows of development, especially during fetal development may cause irreversible and grave problems with the reproductive system both earlier and later in life.

Hazardous chemicals come in our life every day through cosmetics, personal care products, cleaning products and things we touch every day such as thermal paper receipts. They get

into women's bodies, into their breast milk and into their womb.

What research confirms is more women are experiencing difficulty in conceiving and maintaining a pregnancy, which has affected 40 percent more women in 2002 than in 1982. And the incidence of reported difficulty has almost doubled in the young women ages 18 to 25. Yet no chemicals are currently regulated under the Toxic Substance Control Act because of their potential harm to reproduction or development, but other authoritative bodies have listed more than 50 industrial chemicals as reproductive toxins.

We at Planned Parenthood are committed to promoting reproductive justice and we've long fought a woman's right to control her reproductive destiny. We have a growing concern that the complexity of a woman's environment, including her physical geography, her race, her class, her access to health care can play a debilitating roll on her fertility. And that's why we've turned our attention to this important issue of reproductive toxins such as BPA that are affecting the ability of women to become pregnant, to have healthy babies and give birth to healthy children.

Testing confirms that over 90 percent of our population carries BPA in their bodies and the time is now to reduce exposure for women, men and children.

We urge you to support S.B. 210. We at Planned Parenthood believe this is an urgent matter of reproductive justice and that all women should be guaranteed the right to control their own fertility, to bear healthy babies and live in healthy communities.

Thank you so much for your time.

REP. ROY: Thank you, Gretchen.

Any questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none Eric Brown is next, followed by Patrick McCabe.

If anybody knows Patrick he is not in the room. He might be right outside.

ERIC BROWN: Good afternoon, Chairman Roy, Chairman Meyer, distinguished members of the Environment Committee. My name is Eric Brown. I'm with the Connecticut Business and Industry Association. Nice to be back with you here today, although I do greatly regret having to come advising that we hope that you will firmly reject Section 2 of Bill Number 210.

Last year I think we have a great example of how the Legislature -- legislative process kind of works at its best. Several months before the session started I got calls and was generously invited into discussions about an idea about creating an institute. There were several meetings, a lot of collaboration, a lot of cooperation and compromise.

At the time our greatest concern, as I stated in our testimony last year, the CBIA has serious concerns that the concept of an institute could easily result in an organization that is more interested in identifying chemicals of concern and involving itself in public policy efforts to ban or otherwise legislate those chemicals.

In fact, this concern resulted in language being in the bill that said, the Chemical Innovation Institute shall not engage in lobbying as defined under the general

statutes.

This year I get no calls. No e-mails. There's no love anywhere. All of the sudden a bill comes out that proposes something that goes directly, as we see it, to our most fundamental concern in last year's negotiations.

So, you know, I'm disappointed in that. I'm concerned about it. The bill as it stands now talks about the institute to be a resource of information, technical assistance, training for business, assist business in implementation of sustainable processes, all the kinds of things that potentially down the road -- Representative Willis' idea --

And I find out also today that the institute is thinking about a little fee on industry for this thing. You know, that's something that could be talked about if industry is getting a benefit of it, but if the perception is instead of this committee banning chemicals one by one, we'll get a list every year from the institute and we can just ban all those.

You know, I just think that takes the institute in a very different direction. And certainly the industry will have a very different viewpoint of the whole process. So I do cite in my part of my testimony the legislative history from last year, discussion on the floor between Representative Chapin and Chairman Roy as to the impact of taking out the clause that I mentioned earlier. It was taken out because House counsel said, it's not needed. There are other laws that already restrict lobbying of quasipublic agencies.

Representative Chapin's question was to confirm that then taking that out did not

change the meaning of it. That the institute was not supposed to be about lobbying and public policy. It was supposed to be about research, information sharing and helping the business community transition from -- to more green chemicals over time.

So I'm out of time. I conclude there, but I'd be happy to try and answer any questions you have.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: Eric, I'm a little surprised at your testimony and let's talk about it.

ERIC BROWN: Okay.

SENATOR MEYER: We worked very well together with business last year on creating the institute. There's strong business representation on the board. The purpose of the institute was to do research and study of chemicals. And to have some discussion if there was a finding of toxicity, or at least high toxicity. I suppose everything is toxic.

This bill, the second half of this bill I thought was just consistent with what we did last year, namely to move it, to move the research where appropriate to the Legislature. There have been advocates, I will tell you, who have wanted the institute to be able to ban chemicals. No way. That would be an improper delegation of public policy.

And so I have viewed this language to be just a continuation of what we started last year by moving the process from the institute to the General Assembly to let the General assembly

consider in public hearing where we'd be going with any particular toxic chemical. And I'm just concerned about why you'd find this so threatening.

ERIC BROWN: Okay. Well, I guess the way we looked at the institute and the way we understood the agreement -- was last year, was that it would be a conduit. I mean, as has been mentioned here there are any number of other state and federal and international organizations that are doing research on chemicals and making lists.

And you know, if you're looking for a list, there's -- lists, you know, abound out there. I don't think we need another institute to make another list. My understanding was it was supposed to be -- assist in this whole idea of trying to get industry and others, you know, residents and everybody else that uses chemicals we all use them -- to be able to use chemicals that are understood by current science to be more safe and effective. I mean, that's part of the debate, too. You've got to have -- you've got -- it has to do what it's intended to do.

So there's new regulations nationally and internationally that businesses need help with. There's research being done all the time on safer chemicals. There needs to be some conduit to educate businesses about, hey, you know what? You don't need to use that anymore. You can use this. That kind of assistance, we think, would be tremendously valuable to the State.

What we see is, you know, I think -- and I rarely use this term -- but kind of a slippery slope kind of thing that we're -- now there's going to be, under this law, there will be a

report with a list of chemicals. Well you know, what are people going to think about the list of chemicals? They're going to think, oh, you know, this is -- we've got to get rid of these. Are there sufficient economic replacements for them. It doesn't speak to that. And then we're hearing about potential fees on industry.

These are all things that have happened in other states and it's why our members are so concerned about -- last year I got a lot of grief from my members of, yeah. You know, it sounds nice. But this is just the start of something that has an ending much further down the road.

So that's why we're back here, Senator. And I'm not sure that a report -- I mean, I think if you want to do a report, I think what would be good is report on what the institute has accomplished. How have they been helpful? What research have they done? What businesses have they helped convert from traditional chemicals to new greener chemicals?

Things like that, I think, would be helpful. And then you can get into the funding. I mean, there's nothing in the bill that I saw about funding, but you know, once it's up and running and doing good things then, you know, I think there might be broader support for some kind of funding mechanism.

SENATOR MEYER: You're suggesting that there's no investigation of replacements. Actually the bill, the new language says that. It says that the institute has to report, in line 32 and 33, on safe alternatives. And so there is a more holistic approach to this. I guess I'm just concerned, Eric, about your concern.

ERIC BROWN: Well, I appreciate that.

SENATOR MEYER: And we'll talk as this bill goes forward, but this bill is really not intended to be a blockbuster like yours -- you're suggesting.

ERIC BROWN: I know. I'm kind of reacting. As I said I had a lot of skeptics last year knocking on the door, and now they're back saying, uh-huh. See where we're going here?

So I'm happy to again engage, as we did last year, in discussions about this so we can air are each other's concern and really what we're trying to get to. And maybe we can, as we did last year, come up with a thing that everybody is comfortable with.

SENATOR MEYER: Good. Okay. Thanks.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Any other questions?

Representative Willis.

REP. WILLIS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And just a comment to you, Eric. I think you twisted what I said a little bit here. Last year when we were doing this bill, we talked about this being a service really to businesses and to provide them with safer alternatives.

When I said the term "fee," I meant -- and we discussed last year -- that a company would willingly come to the University of Connecticut and say, we need help coming up with an alternative. It's a very costly process for us and we would be willing to help

pay for this.

So it would be a company coming forward and saying, you're doing us, you know, doing the research for us and maybe we would pay you to do that research for us. That's what I meant by a fee. Not that, you know, you can -- that we were going to go out and do a business entity tax on chemicals across the state of Connecticut. And I just wanted to make clear that people would willingly pay the institute to provide this service.

Thank you.

ERIC BROWN: Thank you. I apologize if I mischaracterized. I think you're right.

Again, I think you may hear testimony down the road of what's happened in other states where I think it's not just handled as a fee for service. But I think certainly industry would favor the option at least of saying, hey, here's a resource. Yeah. It's going to cost something, but it could save us a lot in the long run.

So yeah. We had no problem with that at all. I apologize.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, Eric, thank you very much as always.

Patrick McCabe followed by Dr. Mark Mitchell.

PATRICK McCABE: Good afternoon, Chairman Meyer, Chairman Roy, members of the committee. My name is Patrick McCabe. I'm here today representing the Grocery Manufacturers

SB210

Association.

Fred Costa, who has talked with a number of you on this bill last year and other bills, was unable to be here today. I'm not going to read his testimony. I'm just going to highlight a few things and would be available to answer any questions.

A little background on the Grocery Manufacturers Association. It is the voice for more than 300 leading food and beverage and consumer product companies with many, many employees here in the state of Connecticut. The association and its member companies are committed to meeting the needs of consumers through product innovation, responsible business practices and effective public policy solutions and we'd like to believe we have a genuine partnership with policy makers and stakeholders.

The important thing to know about GMA is that it helps its members produce safe products through a strong and ongoing commitment to scientific research, testing and product evaluation. It is really the reason for this, for the organization. It provides consumers with the products, tools and information they need, we believe, to pursue a healthy diet and active lifestyle.

I'm here to oppose S.B. 210, particularly Section 2. And I'm going to have some of the same issues that Eric had, frankly. And I hope, Senator Meyer, that we could join you in a discussion as -- if the bill were to move forward in the same manner.

Again, this bill as in last year's, as has been discussed, similarly lack a funding mechanism, which certainly concerns us, for a

project of this scope. And any requirement that a scientific or peer-reviewed method be employed in the compilation of the list of chemicals that are of high toxic concern and the name of any safe alternative to any such chemical toxin. That's really where -- the list is really where again, we come down in questioning this.

Specifically while we support the intent of this legislation, I think it is the intent of the GMA to make sure that we are producing and selling safe products to our consumers, our customers. However, we believe that the legislation cedes the discretion of the Legislature, and indeed the authority of the State to an academic organization without the benefit of a defined risk assessment process.

The problems associated with the process outlined in the legislation are further exacerbated by the provision which would allow the institute to consider the standards of any state, federal or international organization. And I'll summarize. That is to us, it is so broad that any organization, any advocacy organization, frankly -- and as Eric meant -- there are many lists -- we all know that -- can be used.

And with the institute's, you know, imprimatur said that this is a chemical of high concern. We have a concern. We don't really know and it's not really defined adequately where these lists could come from.

So that's sort of the -- and you have this testimony. I invite you to read the rest of it, but I just wanted to highlight some of the points.

And thanks for your time today.

REP. ROY: Thank you, Patrick. Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: Pat, with respect to the first part of the bill relating to Bisphenol A, you know, this committee is being educated about thermal receipt paper and bisphenol A. And you're part of an industry that would be very affected by this, presumably. And your testimony didn't focus on the bisphenol A part of it. We're learning today about thermal receipt paper and BPA in thermal receipt paper.

Do you have any position with respect to BPA in thermal receipt paper?

PATRICK McCABE: And to be honest with you, I'm learning about that today as well. The interesting -- the Grocery Manufacturers Association, to put it into perspective, does not involve representing actual grocery stores. I think a lot of people think that we're where there might be (inaudible). It's actually the products that you -- that you -- most of the products that you see in the store are manufactured and produced by the member companies of this organization.

A long way of telling you, we don't have a position. Have not really look at that section of the bill. It's not something that we would necessary we have a position on for our members.

SENATOR MEYER: If you do develop a position, let us know, because we're in the learning curve here.

PATRICK McCABE: Certainly. Understand.

REP. ROY: Thank you, Pat.

Any other questions from members of the committee? Seeing none, Pat, thank you very much.

PATRICK McCABE: Thanks for your time today.

REP. ROY: Dr. Mark Mitchell followed by John Murphy.

MARK MITCHELL: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the committee. I'm Dr. Mark Mitchell. I'm a public health physician and founder and president of the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice. I'm here to testify in support of S.B. 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BPA IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

As you know BPA is a known endocrine disruptor. There have been a number of studies over this. And the majority of the non-industry funded studies, over 90 percent of the non-industry funded studies show that BPA, even at very low levels, is linked to a number of diseases.

It's one of the few known causes, or things that are associated with prostate cancer as well as breast cancer. If they feed BPA to a half of a litter of mice then that half of a litter will be at least be 20 percent heavier than the other half of the litter.

There's attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity disorder, lower sperm counts, early onset of puberty. And in fact, if you expose -- it's known to change the effects of more than 200 genes, either to increase or decrease their activity, yet 93 percent of

Americans have detectable levels of BPA in their bodies.

I was part of a study, a recent test of 22 dollar bills from all over the country. And 21 of those dollar bills, including the one that I submitted, came back with BPA on them. The theory is that when you put your receipt in your pocket you also, you know, oftentimes are touching dollar bills and that there gets to be cross-contamination between the dollar bills and the BPA.

There are alternatives. Only about half of receipts use BPA. There are alternatives. There are two major manufacturers of the thermal receipts and one uses BPA and the other one doesn't. The other company that doesn't use BPA has said that they're going to start putting red fibers and their receipts so that you can tell the non-BPA from the BPA. But they're readily available and not very expensive.

The problem is that we don't know much about the alternative. The alternative to BPA is bisphenol S, and we know very little about BPA right now, although EPA is doing research on alternatives to BPA as we speak.

The question as to whether we'd be the first State to ban BPA, and there are a number of states that are considering it right now, considering banning BPA in thermal receipts -- but we may be the first to pass it if you act quickly, then we'll be the first to pass it.

Regarding the -- in summary regarding the chemical -- Connecticut Chemical Innovations Institute, we're very much in favor of that, of the concept. We do believe that it does need some work and that we should be working

with the stakeholders and with the businesses that we worked with last year as well as academia to come up with language to address the concerns about the need for listing chemicals of concern.

Thank you.

REP. ROY: Thank you, Mark.

Speaking on behalf of the committee, we have been trying to get it right as opposed to getting it fast and having to do it over. So I appreciate your wanting to see us out there in front, but we want to make sure when we're out in front, we're out in front for the right reason.

Any questions or comments from members of the committee?

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: Dr. Mitchell, I know that you are the founder of the Coalition for Environmental Justice and I gather you are returning from that.

MARK MITCHELL: Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: And just want to thank you for a lot of service to the General Assembly and the State of Connecticut.

MARK MITCHELL: Well, thank you. I have one more week in my current position.

SENATOR MEYER: What are you going to be doing next?

MARK MITCHELL: I'm going to be doing some consulting around chemical policy,

particularly on the federal level and I will also be working with other environmental justice groups around the country.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Thanks for your service.

MARK MITCHELL: Thank you.

REP. ROY: Any other questions?

Representative Rose.

REP. ROSE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Dr. Mitchell, is there anything we can do even before we get this passed through, if it goes through to protect ourselves? Is simple hand washing with soap and water sufficient?

PATRICK McCABE: Yes. Hand washing with soap and water, you know, we're advising folks that, you know, that if you don't need to receipt then say that you don't need the receipt.

Where my sister works and sort of supervises some cashiers in Missouri, and she -- and I told her that, you know, that they should be contacting the company that uses the non-BPA and say that they, you know, that they would prefer not to have the BPA.

But I, you know, I cautioned her about pregnant woman about working on the cash register. You know, they -- maybe they should be wearing gloves if they have to work there or if they can be assigned to other duties, that that might be better than to have them working at the cash register.

But yeah. Hand washing seems to work.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any other questions or

comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, John, thank you very much.

MARK MITCHELL: Thank you.

REP. ROY: John Murphy followed by Anne Hulick.

JOHN MURPHY: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, Representative Chapin, members of the committee. I'm John Murphy and I represent the 30,000 member families of the Connecticut Citizen Action Group. We're proud to be a lead partner of the Coalition for Safe and Healthy Connecticut and we strongly support Senate Bill 210.

CCAG is concerned about the health of Connecticut's citizens and supports commonsense legislation that reduces exposure to harmful chemicals. We are aware of the growing body of research that links exposure to toxic chemicals in many consumer products with serious diseases.

Of grave concern is the fact that recent research shows that bisphenol A is known as -- an known endocrine disorder, is a component of many thermal paper receipts found in ATM machines, gas pumps and cash registers. In this context BPA is unbound and readily transmits to our hands through the skin and we in turn can transmit it to others. We are especially concerned about store clerks in check blinds that handle those receipt papers for hours on end every day.

A growing body of scientific research links BPA exposure to breast and prostate cancers, reproductive orders -- disorders, obesity and insulin resistance, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Yet we now learn that due to legal loopholes in the Toxic Substances

Control Act, pregnant mothers can unknowingly transmit this chemical to their developing fetus just by doing the weekly grocery shopping.

This is particularly alarming when the incidence of childhood brain cancers and leukemia, breast cancers and other serious disorders linked to BPA are on the rise. With efforts to reform the TSCA stalled, states like Connecticut are taking the lead to pass laws that protect citizens from these harmful chemicals as much as possible.

This spring 30 states introduced efforts to pass more comprehensive chemical policy reforms. Connecticut is recognized for its leadership in passing the strongest ban on BPA in the country. In fact, several states right now are introducing legislation similar to what Connecticut passed in 2009.

We must continue to lead the way and drive the federal reform by banning BPA in thermal paper can receipts once a safer alternative is identified. Senate bill 210 does just that.

The presence of BPA in receipts is just one more example why the U.S. Congress needs to reform the Toxic Substance Control Act. Until that happens CCAG applauds the leadership of this committee and working the past state laws to create a more sustainable framework for protecting Connecticut's citizens.

We support the goals of Senate Bill 210 and urge the members of this committee to vote in favor of the bill. Thank you.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any questions or comments?

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: John I just want to salute CCAG for the role it's played in identifying toxic chemicals and lobbying here in Hartford.

I remember when I got up here in January of 2005, Phil Sherwood of your staff was in my office talking about lead and a bill that would restrict lead, which is such a poisoner of children. And CCAG has continued that advocacy and I just want to thank you for it.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Any other questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, thank you very much.

Anne Hulick followed by Martha Kelly.

ANNE HULICK: Hi. Good afternoon Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, members of the Environment Committee. My name is Anne Hulick and I am the coordinator for the Coalition a Safe and Healthy Connecticut. I'm also a nurse with many years of experience in environmental health.

We represent -- our coalition represents, as you know, a diverse, large group of organizations and individuals that are concerned about toxic chemicals in products and their harm to health. We are strongly in support of Senate Bill 210 and we would like to thank Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and the leaders of this committee for their commitment to passing protective state laws that have been recognized nationally as models for landmark legislation.

Senate Bill 210 we believe is another step in the right direction. As many have testified

before me today, we've learned recently that bisphenol A, a known endocrine disruptor, is present in thermal receipts. The fact that it is unbound unlike polycarbonate plastics and the lining of cans, this chemical now readily transmits to our skin and goes through our skin into our bodies.

Tissue samples were done that confirmed that doses of bisphenol A from handling paper receipts, even in short periods of ten seconds, resulted in exposure at levels that are higher than those previously believed to cause harm. We also know from recent research -- and there's been over 200 independent scientific studies documenting the harmful effects of this endocrine disruptor -- that very low doses of bisphenol A, particularly at critical windows of development, are linked to many of the diseases that we've talked about earlier today, most notably breast cancer, prostate cancer, learning and behavioral disorders, obesity, insulin resistance, diabetes and cardiovascular disease to name a few.

Handling thermal paper receipts means our exposure to this endocrine disruptor is much larger than we ever believed to be true. And again, as others have testified, it's a real public health concern particularly for those often young people that are in the cash register lines handling this for hours on end each day in their work.

We know also from recent research that the placenta is not a barrier to these types of chemicals. Umbilical cord analysis in a recent study showed the presence of over 287 carcinogens, neurotoxins, pesticides and industrial chemicals in umbilical cord blood in babies born in the U.S. We know

absolutely, unequivocally that our babies are born polluted.

We also know that the statistics of chronic diseases is on the rise in this country. Breast cancer has increased more than 20 percent in a 15 to 20-year period. Childhood brain cancer and leukemia has also increased more than 20 percent. We now know that statistically one out of two men and one out of three women will be diagnosed with an invasive cancer within their lifetime.

As others have mentioned the president's cancer panel report, which was just published in 2010, documented that our exposure to toxic chemicals is a risk factor for cancer and urge the president and others to take strong action to address our chemical policy in this country.

With federal efforts to restore -- to reform TSCA stalled, states are taking action and really pushing ahead with trying to reduce our exposure to these toxic chemicals and enact more comprehensive reforms. And the coalition again, wants to thank the leadership of this group for their help in putting Connecticut as a lead.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

ANNE HULICK: We are also very committed to Senate Bill 210 in terms of working with the board, at the institute and with members of this group and other stakeholders to really assure that a process for a sustainable framework for chemical policy reform in the State is passed.

REP. ROY: Okay. Anne, we're going to have to stop there. Excuse me.

Any questions?

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: Anne, you brought to the attention of this committee the thermal paper problem and we appreciate that. Could you give the -- our committee clerk Jason Bowsza a copy of those studies to which you referred?

ANNE HULICK: Absolutely.

SENATOR MEYER: Because as we debate this bill and decide whether or not to approve it and go forward with it I think there will be members who would like to have the benefit of those studies.

ANNE HULICK: I'd be happy to.

SENATOR MEYER: Great. We don't need studies on bisphenol A generally. We've been persuaded about that issue.

ANNE HULICK: Right.

SENATOR MEYER: It's the connection of bisphenol A with thermal receipt paper that would interest us.

ANNE HULICK: Sure. Sure. I'd be happy to.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you.

ANNE HULICK: I'd like to just add too, as Dr. Mitchell reported, the EPA is working on a safer alternative to bisphenol A in thermal paper receipts and we've been in touch with a member of that study group. He has reported that they believe that their work will be done by the end of this year. So the implementation date of 2013 should be quite

reasonable to allow manufacturers of that paper to have a safer chemical in place.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Connecticut does have a high concentration of chronic disease in the country, one of the highest. And I know we have a high asthma rate, the highest in New England.

But you also mentioned umbilical cord blood. We're going to do a bill next week on umbilical cord blood, which is supposedly high in rich nutrition -- stem cells and you're saying there's 200 chemicals in there. Should we not take up that bill or what? How dangerous is that.

ANNE HULICK: I'm not familiar with the bill that you're referencing, but I can tell you that studies have been done that indicate umbilical cord blood does have the presence of these toxins in it. That's a known fact.

We all have -- in biomonitoring studies that have been done, we all have those chemicals in our bodies even though we might try to take efforts to reduce our exposure.

REP. L. MILLER: So is that dangerous for us to start an umbilical cord blood bank to store this, the --

ANNE HULICK: I am not an expert nor am I familiar with the bill. So I really wouldn't be able to (inaudible).

REP. L. MILLER: Because from what I read this

stuff is very valuable and could save lives, many lives, according to the medical profession.

ANNE HULICK: Yeah. Again, I can't respond to that, but I can just report to studies that have been done that -- biomonitoring studies that have tested both adults, children and umbilical cord analysis have confirmed the presence of toxic chemicals in our system.

REP. L. MILLER: Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Representative Urban.

REP. URBAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you for your testimony. You talked about the European Union and the REACH legislation. Have they found an alternative to BPA For the receipts? Or are did they simply ban the receipts?

ANNE HULICK: Not that I'm aware of, no. But I can look into that for you.

REP. URBAN: We're still under the expectation that the EPA is going to come up with a safer alternative in the study that they're presently doing.

ANNE HULICK: Yes.

REP. URBAN: Okay. Thank you.

ANNE HULICK: That's what we've been told, yes. That they are working on that now for that application in the thermal paper. Yes.

REP. URBAN: All right. The European Union tends to always be a little bit ahead of the curve compared to what we're doing here. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any other questions or comments from members of the committee? Anne, thank you very much.

Martha Kelly followed by Susan Eastwood.

MARTHA KELLY: Good afternoon, Representative Roy and Senator Meyer and members of the committee. Thank you very much for having us here.

And I'd like to introduce my friend Mark Case. This is his first time coming to testify so we're here together. Thanks.

A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

A VOICE: Mark Case.

A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

MARTHA KELLY: Yeah. Absolutely. We spoke to Jason beforehand. Thank you.

I'm Martha Kelly. I'm a grandmother, a former life insurance underwriter and a health and environmental educator. I'm very concerned about the possible impact of this chemical bisphenol A that's so common in industry and in usage on my four grandchildren and potentially their children eventually. Because there's -- I've followed for several years now the controversy around BPA and I certainly applaud the Legislature in taking action on the baby bottles recently.

I will submit some written testimony. That will be more comprehensive than what I'm saying here, but I want to address a couple questions that I heard come up, or add to some of the excellent testimony that's already been given.

Some of the adverse effects -- health effects of BPA that concern me are early puberty in girls, or the fact that there is early puberty may be connected to BPA. There's been a study in Japan in 2005 that discovered that there was an increased rate of miscarriages in Japanese women and that also there were chromosomal abnormalities in the fetuses that had miscarried. And I have the name of that study in my notes here.

I found excellent information in the environmental working group's website. And in the past I've read a lot and the Breast Cancer Foundation information. And I applaud Planned Parenthood of Northern and Southern New England for taking a stand on this. Planned Parenthood of Northern England put on a wonderful program on environmental Health and women's health a year or ago that I went to in Vermont.

So I've been concerned knowing that an environmental working group discovered that this chemical is on receipts that come when I get fast food, for example. And, you know, you're typically handed a bag with receipts. And I'd just like to say, I just got a couple thermal receipts when I bought lunch downstairs in the Legislature's cafeteria. So you might want to look right here at home. You know, this concerns you.

And I want to let Mark tell a story about a

conversation we had in a store just recently.

MARK CASE: Well, I would just like to add that there are many, many people who don't even realize that they are handling this chemical bisphenol A daily.

Martha and I encountered a young gentleman the other day who works as a clerk at a small grocery store. He made the comment that uses a chemical -- an alcohol hand sanitizer several times daily, but he notices that the ink, as he said, comes off the receipt and blackens his fingers much more readily.

When he was told that this, in fact, is not an ink or a dye, that's it's a thermal receipt paper containing BPA, he was quite shocked and dismayed to say the least. So there's many people that don't even realize that they're handling this daily.

Thank you for your time.

REP. ROY: Thank you. And we weren't aware of it until a few weeks ago ourselves. So I'm not shocked that other people didn't know.

Any questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, thank you both. Appreciate it.

MARK CASE: Thank you for your time.

MARTHA KELLY: Thank you. May I just add that about the alcohol, there was a concern mentioned just in the environmental working group's website that I read today about the possibility of hand washing may not be adequate to remove this chemical and that the use of alcohol sanitizers may increase the skin's absorption of it. So that's worth

looking into.

Thanks.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

Susan Eastwood followed by Stephen Rosario.

SUSAN EASTWOOD: Good morning -- or good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of Senate Bill 210.

My name is Susan Eastwood and I'm a resident of Ashford, Connecticut. I work with Clean Water Action and the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut. I'm also a parent of children with asthma and allergies and that is what brought me to my work in environmental health.

I talk every day with other parents and with heath-affected individuals who wonder what effects chemicals of concern are having on their families. Or worse, wondering if something in a rubber duck or a sippy cup may have been the cause of their child's autism or cancer. In many cases we just don't know yet, but research findings are adding up in case of bisphenol A.

As you've heard, a known hormone disruptor, bisphenol A has been linked to cancer, infertility and early puberty and has been found in alarming amounts on, of all things, our money and cash receipts. The estimated exposures for the average person from this could equal or exceed the amounts we ingest in our food daily, which is significant. For cashiers the risk grows exponentially. Fortunately not all thermal papers contain BPA

and if safer alternatives are available and can be identified, let's please try to use those.

BPA is especially dangerous to developing children, as you've been hearing. I'm proud that Connecticut has passed the strongest law in the nation to protect those young children among us from this dangerous chemical, but more action is needed to protect all of us from unavoidable exposure from BPA in our daily lives.

High levels of unbound BRA on thermal receipts is a shocking example of how impossible it is to shop ourselves out of this problem. BPA is just one example of many toxins found in our everyday products. Many studies have linked toxins to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's as well as asthma, infertility and learning disabilities.

Last year you heard about the President's cancer report stating that exposure to toxic chemicals is a series risk factor and calling for urgent reform of ineffective chemical laws nationwide.

Strengthening the Chemical Innovations Institute is a great step towards achieving that goal in Connecticut. And we look forward to working with you in figuring out how to do that in the best way for everybody. This year 30 states are introducing legislation around the country on BPA and other toxics reform. Passing S.B. 210 will help lead the nation forward towards national reform of this important issue.

Thank you to the Environment Committee for their leadership in this area. I hope we'll make S.B. 210 a priority to pass this session.

Any questions?

REP. ROY: Thank you, Susan.

Any questions or comments from members of the committee? If not, our next speaker will be Stephen Rosario followed by Joyce Acebo Raguskus.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, members of the committee. It's always a pleasure to be back before your committee to discuss these issues. For the record my name is Steve Rosario. I'm director of the Northeast regional office for the American Chemistry Council.

We are a national association. I do hail from Albany, but it never seems to stick that part of the reason why I'm here is because I do represent countries -- ten to be exact -- that are based here in Connecticut. These are companies that employ Connecticut citizens plus the 35 to 40 plastic companies that I have worked with over the past 20 years that I have been here.

And these are all companies that employ people who are moms and dads who care about the safety of their children and grandchildren as much as anyone else.

On S.B. 210 on the BPA issue, we do oppose that but we know that because of the properties of chemistry are different for different applications, we've heard a lot about a BPA here, but very little with respect to the actual application of BPA in thermal paper. And Senator Meyer, I'm glad you asked for some of those studies. I'm sure that we have reviewed them and we could certainly

provide those studies that BPA has been using.

I'm also glad that someone said that the alternative of which we know even less of, bisphenol S, is out there and there isn't that much information on that as well. So we would hope whatever decision that the committee makes, that it be based on that science.

On the institute, we did have concerns last year over where this institute and the path it could take would take, but in working with CBIA of which we are also members of, we got behind the bill because CBIA had worked on this and we were given some of the same assurances that you heard from Eric Brown. Obviously we now share some of those same concerns that he has. In terms of the structure and the process.

And the concern that we would also have is that as the bill is currently written, it could set up a potential adversarial relationship, whereas we would like to engage in a more cooperative and working relationship as we have in other jurisdictions where some states are doing similar work.

You've heard a little bit about Maine and Massachusetts. Maine, their process is probably going to be changed. I can't say, but what is driving that in Maine is basically their process has been in effect since June of last year and they've already gone through two chemical compounds, BPA and MPE. And what's happening is, is that the local businesses -- not me, not ACC -- but the local businesses that are on the frontline right now and who understand the negative impact that that process is going to have, they are up in arms because they felt the process was unfair.

No matter what scientists they brought, toxicologists, their side was totally ignored. And I think that is instructive of the institute here in Connecticut, that if the process is viewed as fair, then I think you would get a lot more cooperation, certainly from people like me representing ACC and its member companies, CBIA and others.

And lastly, that goes to the issue of funding where the federal government spends hundreds of millions of dollars. And I think you've heard me testify that currently EPA is spending $30 million on a third review of BPA. That is one chemical and $30 million is a lot of money. So just to give you a sense that we certainly would work with CBIA and with this committee in the hopes that we can find a cooperative working relationship in dealing with the institute.

Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Could you elaborate a bit on your belief that the bill in front of us, the second half of the bill for the institute will create an adversarial relationship? Because I don't think that's the intent. How would it create an adversarial relationship?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Sure. The issue of creating lists whether it's here or in Maine or in New York or elsewhere in Massachusetts, the issue becomes one that it creates uncertainty for the companies that I certainly represent and the products that they make.

And the situation is that from a list, if your chemical compound is on that list you already have a scarlet letter, which means that in the public arena and the public domain there is suspect for concern. Then there is the next

step, how was that list going to be used? And this is the exercise and the situation that we are facing in Maine where a chemical was taken from that list and is now subject to ban.

Once you get into that situation that is adversarial. I am now into a situation where I'm defending something that a committee or an institute or a commission has done. So that's what I meant by it can create that adversarial position once the list is created and the potential for creating uncertainty for companies.

Because even if my chemical is not targeted, I don't know if it will be next year. Now I'm already planning two, three years out so I don't know if my chemical or my product is going to be on any list. So to protect myself now, that's going to put me in an adversarial position.

I hope that answered your question, although that's not where we want to be, but please --

SENATOR MEYER: No. I hear you and I just -- I'm looking at the language of the bill we passed last year that I think ended up with your support.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: And the bill last year, which is existing law --

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Uh-huh.

SENATOR MEYER: -- unamended existing law, gives the responsibility of the institute -- and I'm quoting -- to coordinate and share information with institutes and other states and the Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse concerning

alternative chemicals and the impact of such alternative chemicals on public health and environment.

And it goes on to say, another responsibility is to provide research and technical assistance concerning chemicals that are of concern to the environment and public health.

So I think the spirit, if not the letter of the existing law that we did last year, is to identify chemicals that are of concern, bring that to the attention of the General Assembly which will have responsibility dealing with it one way or another.

And therefore, as I said to Eric Brown, I'm a little surprised that you're concerned about this, because the original intent was to try to avoid problems by identifying, you know, highly toxic chemicals. And obviously in an open society as we are, those highly toxic chemicals are going to become a matter of public information. So that would, in itself, would create an adversarial relationship by the standard that you're describing.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Well, again, in creating that list, and as Eric said, there are many lists out there and some of them are taken out of context to give the impression that there is a problem with some of these compounds.

The issue with creating a list -- and I think you heard quite a bit from the institute is that if you're going to do an arduous, complicated, sophisticated work in this area, it must be done correctly because we are dealing with chemistry and the issues relative to material application and chemistry, which is even more difficult. To do that it has to be done properly. That is an expensive

proposition and that's why I mentioned the $30 million just on that one chemical.

And if the institute is saying that they can't get funding, you're already somewhat behind the eight ball and that raises the concerns of certainly my members and CBI members who won't know what chemical will be on any list from year to year to year as they try to compete in a very global atmosphere.

SENATOR MEYER: Questions or comments by members of the committee?

Representative Mushinsky.

REP. MUSHINSKY: Thank you. I understand businesses' need for predictability. I hear that from my local businesses all the time.

Would it help if we confirmed that this is a public health issue? Would it help if you a timetable for changing over to the safer alternatives for your predictability?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Well, the issue with safer alternatives -- and again, full disclosure -- some of my member companies make alternatives to a lot of these compounds.

The issue with safer alternatives is that it's a very appealing concept. And a safer alternative is in the eye of the beholder. We don't know what the baseline is. We wouldn't know if we were talking about 25 or 50 or a hundred percent safer.

What is the experience with some of these alternatives? I think you've heard another speaker raise it, saying that even the alternative here, we don't know that much about. So what may be safer today, three,

four years down the line could be facing the same issues that we're discussing here today.

But certainly, I think the issue of alternatives is one that should be discussed by the institute and an area that I think we would love to engage with as we work with CBIA.

REP. MUSHINSKY: A second follow up, Mr. Chairman?

SENATOR MEYER: Yeah.

REP. MUSHINSKY: Do you folks have a person representing your interests on the institute's board?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Not ACC. CBIA because, you are members -- I believe CBIA is a member of the board.

REP. MUSHINSKY: Okay. Because I think we set it up that way if I remember right.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Yes.

REP. MUSHINSKY: And what is supposed to happen is if you're having problems with the alternative, or whatever, you're supposed to, you know, feed that information to your person on the board.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Uh-huh.

REP. MUSHINSKY: And then it's supposed to be discussed among all the members of the board.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Right.

REP. MUSHINSKY: That's how it should work. Right?

We -- it's tough for us as a citizen

legislature to try to be up on all these chemicals.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Sure.

REP. MUSHINSKY: I mean, it's just too much for us to be experts on all these things.

So we had intended to set up this institute so that they would do the winnowing for us and then give us some guidance on the policy. But that's how it's supposed to work and your rep is supposed to help you with the adaptation of the business and if you're having a problem with how fast things are happening. You know, your rep is supposed to get some consensus from the board on that.

So hopefully -- I hope that part works because that's the way we intended it to work.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Well, certainly that's the way it has worked in other situations that we have been involve in where we do work with the particular in state Representative. But correct me if I'm wrong, I'm not aware that the institute board has met.

SENATOR MEYER: Yes, it has met. And there are minutes of that meeting that are public and I think if you want to talk to the clerk of our committee Jason Bowsza, he can provide you with a copy of the minutes.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Great.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Representative Hurlburt.

REP. HURLBURT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And good to see you again up here. I guess as I was trying to squeeze a little bit of a

lunch in while we're continuing the hearing, I think I overheard you say that, you know, we don't know what we decide today or what the institute would decide today; whether or not those actions three or four years down the road would be safer or less safe than what is currently being used.

And I think that's, you know, kind of a false argument that when we deliberated on this bill last year, which we worked hard with the advocates and with the business community, that everybody was to be included. And I may be mistaken, but I'm pretty sure it flew through both chambers and to the Governor's desk with mild if any opposition.

And we reached out to the business community and said, there's a place for you here and we want you here and we want you to be part of the discussion.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Uh-huh.

REP. HURLBURT: So I'm just a little stunned that we could hear a presentation, you know, a year later on a bill to make the institute better and actually give it some, you know, give it the ability to do what we intended to do with support from the business community, that there's concern that, well, it won't do what we intended to do.

And I think if that's your concern, you have -- as Representative Mushinsky said -- you have members of that institute to weigh in on these decisions. And the decisions should be made that -- and the reason we took it out of our hands was because we are not academics -- well, some of us are. I shouldn't say that blanket -- but we are not experts on these issues. And we wanted the

experts, including members of the business community to be represented to talk about the economic impact on what would happen and the benefits and the alternatives.

You know, so I'm just a little disappointed that we're hearing the flip side of that, that you know, you don't think you have a say, when we reached out, you know, very early in the process to make sure you did have a say. So I just want to make sure that we have that, that the members who are here are aware that you have a say and we made sure you had a say.

So I don't think it's a fair argument to say that you're kind of left out of the institute.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: If I may, Representative, and I apologize if I misspoke, but I don't believe that I said that we didn't have a say. I think what I said was that in terms of dealing with chemical lists and the issue of uncertainty is that science is always evolving. And whether it's a BPA or phthalates or any other issue, there's always new science. Because as we get more sophisticated we learn more and more about the effects of chemistry and material properties.

I think what I said was that the concern is that if the institute is given the authority to create a list, that list is going to be created every year. My compound may not be on the list this year. I don't know what's coming down the pipe. That does create uncertainty.

REP. HURLBURT: But -- I'm sorry to interrupt -- but you should be aware because members of -- the business representatives are members of that board and they should be reaching out and having this conversation with you.

You know, just like that would happen here, where the committee members meet and we reach out and we have discussions going back and forth. So if -- you know, you should be aware because you have members of the board who are there to represent your interests.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: I will only become aware the day that it's put down on a piece of paper. Right then and there, that's a little bit too late because I've already committed to doing X, Y and Z.

Now our companies don't function month to month. We function year to year. We plan out three, four, five years out. So if I'm purchasing a compound for a product, I'm not just purchasing for today. So if I find out today, then I know but I've already committed the contracts to after years out. And I think that's (inaudible).

REP. HURLBURT: And do you do business in Europe? Do you do business in Maine? Do you do business in Washington?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: All my member companies do business around the road. And even the smallest company will do business outside of their particular state and out regionally across the country market.

REP. HURLBURT: Right. And the reason I ask that is because, as I asked Professor Morse earlier today, that there would be the reason to piggyback on -- you know, since we don't have the resources to dedicate for a fully functioning institute this year --

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Uh-huh.

REP. HURLBURT: -- there would be the ability to

piggyback on the REACH, of what Europe has adopted, which is, you know, very far-reaching. That we could piggyback on Washington. That we could piggyback on Maine. Massachusetts has a similar program that we modeled our legislation off.

So it's not that it would be, you know, unheard of that a chemical came before the institute for discussion about putting it on a list or not including it on a list. It would be, you know, it would have popped up in numerous places across the United States had probably already have been addressed in Europe.

And as the discussions happen, it's a public institute. There is opportunity for members of the public on their own to come up and talk about -- to members of the institute -- about the impact of that.

I don't think, you know, it's kind of like we wouldn't allow this process to happen in the institute and I don't think that's fair. It's not that a bill just appears before the General Assembly at its passed on day one and goes to the Governor's desk without any opportunity for input.

I think you, by saying that it will just appear on a list one day and you won't have the opportunity, is not accurate.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Well, again, I think that goes to the question I raised earlier. Once it's on a list it's the scarlet letter and that, in and of itself, put us in that adversarial position, because now I've got to come in and defend the chemical that we believe and that other federal, state and international agencies believe are safe.

REP. HURLBURT: And is that not a good discussion, to have people who disagree come to the table and discuss what's safe for the residents of the state and what's not safe?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: I would rather have that discussion before it's put on a list.

REP. HURLBURT: And nothing prohibits that.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: But that's not what the bill says.

REP. HURLBURT: But nothing prohibits you from talking to members of the institute and working with the institute as the list is developed.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: That's correct.

REP. HURLBURT: And as I've mentioned, they'll be piggybacking on lists that are already in the process of being developed internationally and in other states across the nation.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: All I can tell you is -- and respond -- is that we are always concerned about lists and how they're used. And once a chemical appears on it, it is then used as a political weapon against us, either in that particular state or in others. And that does put us in an adversarial position and I'm speaking from 20 plus years experience defending this industry when we're confronted with that situation.

REP. HURLBURT: I don't think it needs to be as adversarial as you portray it. I think should be an ongoing dialogue that public policy makers and industry discuss about, you know, what is safe, what's appropriate and how do we

best protect the interests of the public and take, you know, toxic chemicals out of, you know, consumers hands. And I think that's a good discussion and if every few years we have to have that discussion with the chemical industry, then I'm fine with that.

You know, as you mentioned, science progresses. These things change and so, you know, BPA, you know, up until last year, or two years ago, you know, we wouldn't, you know, we didn't think there was a problem with it. Well, the evidence suggested otherwise. You know, the alternative as you suggest, you know, may not be as good. Well, we can have that discussion when that information is available that states that.

But that's progress, that we're taking bad things that we know -- and getting them out of the stream. And as we find out what else is not good we're pulling that out also.

You know, I would hope that you guys could come together with us again, this year as you have in the past to find the right, you know, proposal that meets the needs of the industry and protects the citizens of the state. You know, and I look forward to the discussion happening.

Because, unlike what was suggested earlier, it's an ongoing discussion that we will be having with members of the business community and the advocates and other legislators so that it just doesn't appear as a bill before the Governor's desk without any deliberation.

So thank you for your time.

And Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity.

SENATOR MEYER: Mr. Rosario, you get the last word here if you would like to respond.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: No. I was just going to say, and we will work with CBIA and this committee. That's always been our intention.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Representative Piscopo has a question.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And good afternoon. I was wondering about the institute. I'm sorry I didn't pull the minutes of the first and last time they met -- for the first time, but -- and I should have asked the representative of the CBIA this. Do they actually come to a -- does it come to a vote; we will include this chemical on, you know, for future discussion or on a future legislative action? Do you know if it comes to a vote? If is there a panel --

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Representative, I don't. Again, I was unaware that they even met. I will probably request to be put on their distribution list because I do attend meetings of other such bodies even though we're not a member of them per se. I do like to at least participate and provide whatever information we can. So for the future I will be doing that, but I apologize.

REP. PISCOPO: No apologies for me. You know, I didn't know either.

And do you --

SENATOR MEYER: John, I think I can answer that. There isn't -- there is a responsibility of the board, but there isn't -- there's no procedure or process that's prescribed in law such as a vote. They have responsibilities to study, research, identify, but -- and report to us. But there's no procedure as such.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just wondering because I see CBIA is a real minority member of this institute at times, you know, if they do disagree with a certain chemical that's being presented in front of them.

Another question, do you foresee the possibility of legal action if -- well, bisphenol B here is on a list. If someone could feel affected by that chemical by appearing on a list, do you see where it would open some sort of gate for legal action? Do you see that down the -- as a possibility?

STEPHEN ROSARIO: It has been my experience that legal actions are the absolutely last resort and the situation has to be very severe to go down that route. Most companies and most industries generally accept the final decision whether it's EPA or the State of Connecticut. So we very, very rarely go down that route, at least that's been my experience.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Thank you.

REP. PISCOPO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you, Representative.

Any other quick questions? Appreciate it.

STEPHEN ROSARIO: Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Our next witness is Joyce Acebo Raguskus followed by Peter Berdon and Keith Bishop.

Good afternoon.

JOYCE ACEBO RAGUSKUS: Good afternoon. Thank you so much for letting me testify today.

Can you hear me? I don't have the best projection here.

My name is Joyce Acebo Raguskus. I'm chair of Diesel Clean Up with Environmental Concerns Coalition in Milford and also with the Coalition For a Safe and Healthy Connecticut, Clean Water Action and advocate for many other environmental coalitions. I'm here before you today to support S.B. 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

I have attached a recent article from this week's newspaper, "Snow Melts, Toxic Chemicals Don't." I wrote that in support of some of our toxins -- one of which was S.B. 210, a key toxic chemical health issue. Bisphenol A is to be reviewed as a top toxic priority in place -- in the competent hands of our new chemical innovation's institute, securing a strong bridge to the businesses and the bodies of concerned citizens. SB249

Like germs, BPA lines our wallets and our pocketbooks and is very transferable with cross-contamination, as we have heard in lots of testimony today. I do hope you take a moment to read the article and share with your

constituents.

Looking back when I was an active single parent for a little boy, in 1986 I never knew what this yet another tip of the toxic iceberg chemical was, bisphenol A. And I was diagnosed then in '86 with breast cancer when my boy was just about 12. I am grateful and humble to be here, indeed, and to be able to support cleaning up of such toxins that are almost every place we look -- leaks and lurking --

Something that meets our hand and not to transfer such chemicals, nor to have to wear surgical gloves in every place that we visit, but to get toxins out of our reach and those of our loved ones, including our four-legged ones.

I spent all afternoon yesterday at St. Raphael's Hospital listening to the ping of an MRI and I thought I could help to prevent another from having to follow up with their survival -- and lessen exposure to toxins and lend support for all the important work that you legislators have been so committed to in our environment committees -- it's faced with. And I am very grateful to do that. And I thank you for all that you do and have done.

And I support S.B. 210 in the funding for Chemical Innovations Institute and alternatives they might have for us also. And last, I do support S.B. 249, the Raymark cleanup, living directly across the bridge in Devon, Connecticut.

For now, I just simply share, possibly that you guys can, gentlemen, wash your hands, because right now this is probably the only

protection we're going to have until we could get this cleaned up.

And I thank you so much.

SENATOR MEYER: Well, thank you. And I did read your good article in the Milford, Orange, Bolton -- and appreciate the contribution you made to the dialogue there.

JOYCE ACEBO RAGUSKUS: You're welcome.

SENATOR MEYER: Any questions from the committee?

Thank you so much.

JOYCE ACEBO RAGUSKUS: You're welcome.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Colleagues we're now going to go to farm wines. A favorite subject of mine. Sorry that we can't offer you any samples. Someday, Keith.

The first witness on Bill 992 is Peter Berdon.

PETER BERDON: Good afternoon, Senator Meyer, members of the committee. My name is Peter Berdon. I am the executive director of the white and spirits wholesalers of the State of Connecticut.

Our membership comprises of those companies that purchase beverage alcohol from suppliers and resells those products to the restaurants, bars and package stores here in the state of Connecticut. Our membership distributes approximately 85 percent of the wine sold here in the state of Connecticut and approximately 90 percent of the spirits sold in the state. Our members employ over 1400 individuals, many of whom reside in your own districts.

SB994
SB84
HB6264

Working Together to Make a Difference in Public Health

Connecticut Public Health Association
Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1916

Written Testimony of Connecticut Public Health Association

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE. S.B. 210

Environment Committee
February 15, 2011

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CPHA is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the General Assembly's Environment Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) in favor of SB 210. In accordance with the Connecticut Public Health Association's mission that includes, "working to eliminate the state's most pressing public health concerns and promoting healthy and safe living for the people of Connecticut," CPHA strongly urges members of the Environment Committee to reduce people's exposure to toxic chemicals – in this case Bisphenol-A.

The Health Effects of BPA Exposure:

Scientific research shows that the public is routinely exposed to a variety of chemicals that increase the risk of serious health threats including cancer, asthma, infertility, and learning and developmental disabilities. One such chemical linked to these health threats is bisphenol-A (BPA) which is widely used in the manufacturing of polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. BPA was first synthesized in the late 19th century and has been known as an endocrine disruptor since the 1930s. Products include baby and water bottles, medical and dental devices, food storage containers, and linings in food cans [1]. It is a popular chemical with an annual global production greater than 6 billion pounds [1]. Increasing rates of chronic diseases such as cancer and asthma have been linked to exposure to toxic chemicals such as BPA which has led many state legislatures across the country to enact policies to help decrease chemical exposure.

BPA is a known hormone-disrupting chemical and negative health effects linked specifically to its exposure include breast and prostate cancer, heart disease, obesity, diabetes, and weakened immune systems [2]. Other diseases and disorders include infertility, miscarriages, premature births, and early puberty [3,4]. BPA is especially detrimental to the health of children as it can affect their brain development and cause alterations in behavior. The 2003-2004 National Health and

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Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found detectable levels of BPA in 93% of 2517 urine samples from people six years and older [4]. The CDC NHANES data is considered representative of exposures to BPA in the United States. Equally disturbing is the fact that many studies have found the highest concentrations of BPA in children, who are most vulnerable to BPA-induced health problems [5]. Regarding the possible effects on human development and reproduction, the National Toxicology Program (NTP) has stated it has some concern for effects on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland in fetuses, infants, and children at current human exposure to BPA [6]. A recent study involving cord blood analyses showed every baby born today has toxic chemicals in his or her blood, including BPA, PCBs, phthalates, flame retardants, pesticides, lead, and mercury.[7,8] This scientific data demonstrates that embryos and fetuses are exposed to a vast array of toxic chemicals that cross the placental barrier throughout their early development.

BPA in Thermal Paper Receipts:

Bisphenol-A is a widely used chemical that has been shown to adversely affect health outcomes in many scientific studies. In thermal printing applications, BPA functions chemically as a developer, which reacts with white or colorless dyes (color formers) in the presence of heat, converting them to a dark color [9]. BPA is used mostly as a developer in lower-grade thermal paper applications, such as receipts, lottery tickets, and medical papers. Today many paper companies produce massive quantities of thermal paper for receipts given out at retail stores, supermarkets, and gas stations. Unfortunately, unlike BPA in baby bottles or other products, BPA on thermal paper isn't chemically bound in any way. This free, unbound BPA then becomes a powdery film on the surface of receipts which means it can be transferred from the paper to a person's skin [10].

The Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families Coalition and the Washington Toxics Coalition recently released a report that examined the amount of BPA found on cash register receipts and dollar bills [10]. Data from the report indicate that this toxic chemical doesn't stay on the paper but easily transfers from the paper to a person's skin where it can be absorbed and enter the bloodstream. The highest transference of BPA to the skin came from crumpling a receipt, which deposited more than 10 times the BPA on the skin as simply holding a receipt between a finger and thumb. Researchers found that 50% of the thermal paper receipts tested had large quantities of unbound BPA and that 95% of the dollar bills tested positive for lower amounts.

Specific Findings of the Report:

1. About half of thermal paper receipts were made with large quantities of unbound BPA. Researchers collected receipts made with thermal paper from 22 retailers in 10 states. Laboratory tests showed BPA in large quantities, up to 2.2% of the total weight, in 11 of the 22 receipts. BPA used in thermal paper isn't chemically bound so it is free and able to come off onto skin, money, and other objects.

2. BPA transfers easily from thermal paper receipts to human skin.
In tests replicating typical handling of receipts, BPA transferred from receipts to fingers. After only ten seconds of holding a receipt, up to 2.5 micrograms of BPA was transferred. Much higher amounts, about 15 times as much, were transferred by rubbing the receipts.

3. Unregulated use of BPA has contaminated the money supply.
Since the BPA in thermal paper receipts is present in a powdery film, it could easily travel from those receipts to other objects. Of the 22 dollar bills tested, BPA was found on 21 of them. It is very likely that BPA contaminates much of the paper currency as well as many other objects used during daily activities.

While recent attention has been focused on BPA in certain plastic and canned products, the amount in a single typical paper receipt may be 1,000 times higher than the amount of BPA measured in canned food [9]. People working in certain occupations, such as cashiers and restaurant servers who handle thermal paper often, may be at greater risk of exposure. Hand-to-mouth behavior and mouthing of objects puts young children and babies, who are most sensitive to BPA, at greater risk of potential exposure. Teenagers, who are also at an important stage of their development, may potentially be exposed to BPA as they enter the workforce.

Alternatives to BPA are out there. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified 18 chemicals other than BPA that could potentially be used in thermal paper receipts [8]. Reducing use of BPA in receipts is an opportunity to reduce one source of human exposure and reduce release of it into our environment.

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), passed in 1976, gives the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency very limited authority to require safety testing of only a few hundred of the approximately 80,000 chemicals used in commerce [11]. Of that large number of chemicals, 62,000 were grandfathered under the law with no requirement for testing or safety assessment. This is why it is so important for the state government, through its legislative actions, to commit to the continued protection of its citizens' health, safety, and well-being.

Conclusions:

The Connecticut Public Health Association would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to discuss the impact chemicals such as BPA are having on the health of the people who live in this state. In 2009, state legislatures passed a bill protecting children's health from dangerous chemicals and for the promotion of safer alternatives. While Connecticut is fortunate to have one of the strongest laws in the country regarding BPA, further legislation is needed to protect consumers from toxic chemical exposure. Passage of SB 210 will help ensure future generations are protected from exposure to BPA.

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8) Lee Y, Ryu H, Kim H, Min C, et.al. Maternal and fetal exposure to bisphenol A in Korea. Reproductive Toxicology, 2008. 25: p. 413-419.
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Connecticut Chapter
645 Farmington Ave.
Hartford, Connecticut 06105

Martin Mador, Legislative Chair

Environment Committee
February 23, 2011

Testimony In Favor of
SB 210 AA Prohibiting The Use Of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper
And Increasing The Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave., Hamden, CT 06518. I am the volunteer Legislative Chair for the Sierra Club-Connecticut Chapter. I am also a director of Rivers Alliance and of the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association. I hold a Masters of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

The Sierra Club believes that the intentional introduction of toxics into our environment is a significant environmental issue, and appropriately within the scope of our advocacy agenda.

It is commonly accepted now that Bisphenol-A is a threat to our health. The chemical has been linked to reproductive disorders, endocrine disorders, cancer, brain development and fat metabolism. The legislature recognized this with passage of PA 09- 103 (HB 6572), AA Banning Bisphenol-A in Children's Products and Food Products.

According to the NRDC, we produced more than 2 billion pounds of BPA in 2004. Our concern originally was its use in polycarbonate plastics, such as re-useable beverage containers. We then focused on BPA as the ubiquitous liner for food cans.

We now understand that thermal register receipt paper is a significant transmittal medium. The BPA used in printing the text is not bound into the paper, so that it easily transfers from the paper upon casual contact. Anyone who has accepted a thermal register receipt from a store clerk has transferred BPA from the receipt to their skin, where it is absorbed.

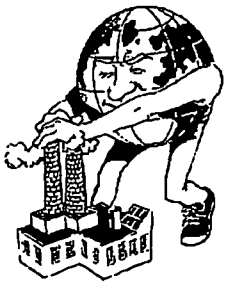
This bill is another in a series of important legislative actions to reduce our exposure to toxic substances. Because alternatives are now under development, SB 210 allows a lead time of several years to allow industry an adequate window to switch to a safer alternative. This may be considered somewhat generous, but it does recognize the need to balance immediate environmental and health needs and industry's lead time to convert to non-toxic practices and materials.

The 1976 federal Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA) has failed its mission to identify and ban toxic substances, having identified only a handful of substances of concern. Lacking strong federal action, it is incumbent on the states to protect their residents. The legislature created the Chemical Innovations Institute in 2010 (PA 10-164, HB5126) to provide an expert resource on toxic substances and safer alternatives. The Institute, housed at UCONN, must seek its own funding-none comes from the state budget.

SB 210 specifically charges the Institute with identifying toxics substances, and reporting annually to the legislature. Many states, countries, regions, and research organizations publish regularly on this issue, so the Institute need not fund its own research facilities, but instead look to published research findings. The lists of chemicals it identifies may be used to craft future legislation, but the specifics of such future action are wisely left out of SB 210. It merely provides the first step-the identification for Connecticut of toxics substances we should consider replacing with safer alternatives. As the bill is non-directive as to how the Institute would carry out this request, other than saying explicitly that it may look to existing standards, the bill does not seem to encroach on academic freedom.

Sierra suggests adding to the reporting requirement the committee with cognizance of public health, otherwise known as the "Public Health Committee".

We refer you to the well-crafted testimony of Dr. Tim Morse, director of the Institute, to which we subscribe in full, and recommend that the committee work closely with Dr. Morse to continue the process of defining the Institute.



Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice

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Testimony of Mark Mitchell M.D., MPH
In support of SB 210
February 23, 2011

Good Afternoon Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and members of the Committee. My name is Mark Mitchell. I am a public health physician, founder and for another week, President of the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice. I am here to testify in support of SB 210 An Act prohibiting the use of Bisphenol A in thermal receipt paper and increasing the duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute. Bisphenol A or BPA is a known endocrine disrupter. The vast majority of non-industry funded studies, over 200, have found BPA exposure, even at very low doses, to be linked with prostate and breast cancer, obesity, attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity disorder, lowered sperm count and early onset of puberty. Yet 93% of Americans have detectable levels of BPA in their bodies.

We need to act now to control the spread of unbound BPA on about half of all thermal receipts. This dissemination has resulted in the contamination of the money supply. I participated in a recent test of 22 dollar bills from all over the country. 21 of the dollar bills were contaminated with powdery BPA, including the one that I submitted. If the money supply is contaminated, we are being contaminated.

The public health concern involved with BPA is an example of why we need a comprehensive chemical policy that will identify the toxic chemicals of high concern and suggest safer alternatives. Since only half of thermal receipts contain BPA, that means that there is a readily available alternative, although we do not know if it is a safer alternative, since safety and health information about the alternative—Bisphenol S—is not available. BPA is only one example of a chemical we are exposed to on a regular basis that poses serious public health dangers. There are over 70,000 chemicals that are approved for use in consumer products that are in fact untested due to the in inadequacy of exiting federal laws. The Toxic Substances Control Act, passed by Congress in 1976, gives the EPA very limited authority to require the testing of chemicals. Of the approximately 84,000 chemicals approved for use in commerce since 1976, EPA has only required testing of about 200. They have only been able to restrict use of 5 chemicals. Since our federal system for protecting the public health from toxic chemicals is broken, states like Connecticut need to take the lead, both in banning BPA and in the area of comprehensive chemical reform.

We support the Connecticut Chemical Innovations Institute's expanded role in identifying chemicals of concern, although we realize that the concept needs more work in order to allow it to do this while retaining its ability to carry out its original mission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I am available to answer any questions.

The Association of Food, Beverage and Consumer Products Companies

February 22, 2011

The Honorable Richard Roy
Co-Chairman, Environment Committee
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable Edward Meyer
Co-Chairman, Environment Committee
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: S.B. 210 Opposition

Dear Chairmen:

On behalf of the Grocery Manufacturers Association, I respectfully wish to convey our opposition to S.B. 210, "An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A in Thermal Receipt Paper and Increasing the Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute," and in particular Section 2 of the bill. H.B. 210 cedes authority over the development of public policy on the subject of chemicals, and the future use of chemicals in commerce in the State of Connecticut, to an unfunded, nearly non-existent "Chemical Innovations Institute." This legislation is similar in approach to 2010's original bill H.B. 5130. That bill similarly lacked both a funding mechanism for a project of this scope and any requirement that a scientific or peer-reviewed method be employed in the compilation of the "list of chemicals that are of high toxic concern and the name of any safe alternative to any such chemical of high toxic concern."

Based in Washington, D.C., the Grocery Manufacturers Association is the voice of more than 300 leading food, beverage and consumer product companies that sustain and enhance the quality of life for hundreds of millions of people in the United States and around the globe. Founded in 1908, GMA is an active, vocal advocate for its member companies and a trusted source of information about the industry and the products consumers rely on and enjoy every day. The association and its member companies are committed to meeting the needs of consumers through product innovation, responsible business practices and effective public policy solutions developed through a genuine partnership with policymakers and other stakeholders.

GROCERY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
1350 I Street, NW · Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005 ph 202-639-5900 .. fx 202-639-5932 www.gmaonline.org

In keeping with its founding principles, GMA helps its members produce safe products through a strong and ongoing commitment to scientific research, testing and evaluation and to providing consumers with the products, tools and information they need to achieve a healthy diet and an active lifestyle.

The food, beverage and consumer packaged goods industry in the United States generates sales of $2.1 trillion annually, employs 14 million workers and contributes $1 trillion in added value to the economy every year.

GMA and its member companies support the intent of this legislation, to ensure that consumer products with which the citizens of the State of Connecticut come in contact are safe and free of unnecessary risk to health and wellbeing. However, we believe that this legislation cedes the discretion of the Connecticut State Legislature and indeed the authority of the State of Connecticut to an unelected academic organization without benefit of a defined risk assessment process, nor even a mention of legislative or state agency oversight. The problems associated with the process outlined in this legislation are further exacerbated by the provision which would allow the institute to "consider the standards of any state, federal or international organization" in compiling the list. S.B. 210 does not even specify that the "state, federal or international organization" be governmental in nature. This language would allow even the most biased of advocacy organizations to be the originating "organization" of a list that would become a policy statement of the State of Connecticut. This is too much authority to concentrate in an academic body with no record.

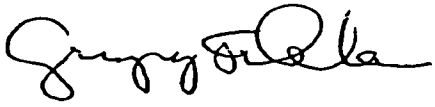
The federal government best handles the study and evaluation of chemicals for approval for use in food and consumer products. While this legislature clearly has the mandate to protect the citizens of this state, we would ask that you also consider the level of expertise and dedication of our public servants at the FDA, EPA and other federal agencies that work to safeguard the public's health and safety. Given the present degree and quality of protection afforded by the extensive resources we all pay for at the federal level, Connecticut's consumers and taxpayers are well served by a fulsome and deliberate debate on the merits of a given chemical in a legislative setting. S.B. 210 would represent a legislative handoff of this responsibility to an academic body with zero accountability to the citizens of Connecticut.

Additionally, this legislation does not take into consideration any process for alternatives assessment. There is no provision in this bill that would require, or even facilitate such a process and the legislation would in fact allow a "Chemical Innovations Institute" to make recommendations for safe alternatives based on nothing more than a published list.

Given the latitude in scientific standard that is provided to the "institute" in this legislation, we believe that the committee should consider at the very least the minimum scientific credentials that might be required for a "state, federal or international organization" to be considered a source. It is also unclear if the "institute" would be required to disclose what source(s) it uses to compile its list of chemicals that are of high toxic concern, or how the safety of proposed alternatives would be evaluated. It is also unclear if the public will have an opportunity to question the scientific validity of these sources or even the conclusions of the "institute."

The provisions of this legislation which would increase the authority of this "institute" while seeming well intentioned, reach too far, consider too little in the way of science and cede a staggering level of discretion to an unaccountable academic body. For the above stated reasons we urge you to vote no on S.B. 210. I look forward to working with you and the members of the committee in the coming days and weeks to address this issue.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Costa
Director, State Affairs

cc: Members, Environment Committee

GROCERY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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Written Testimony of Chris Corcoran of West Hartford CT,
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee,
February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Chris Corcoran and I am a resident of West Hartford. CT.

I am in writing because I strongly support SB 210 An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute.

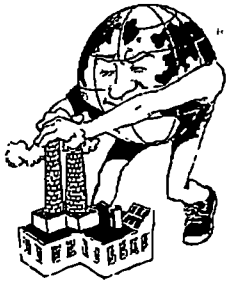
I am very concerned about toxic chemicals in products we use every day, like receipts! In particular, I am very concerned about children's exposure to these chemicals which is what prompted me to leave the private sector four years ago to take a job working on environmental issues, specifically protecting children from exposure to toxic chemicals. In 2009 I worked with the Coalition for a Safe & Healthy CT, members of this committee and the General Assembly to pass HB6572 that banned BPA in food containers and children's products. I am very proud of this accomplishment and certainly children are safer because of this legislation and yet BPA is still a major concern and the recent study on BPA content in register receipts and medical paper is quite troubling.

According to the study released by Safer Chemicals Healthy Families and the Washington Toxics Coalition, over fifty years ago paper manufacturers began using BPA to produce thermal paper, a special kind of paper used for everything from cash register receipts to lottery tickets and medical papers. I am alarmed to learn that BPA, a known endocrine disruptor, is used in many thermal paper receipts! BPA in thermal receipts is unbound and easily transmits to hands and into our skin. BPA is linked to many serious diseases including breast and prostate cancers, reproductive disorders, obesity and insulin resistance, diabetes and cardiovascular disease and yet paper manufacturers look the other way and use it in a product we all come in contact with every day. We need to take all possible steps to assure that we are limiting our exposure to BPA, particularly in something like receipts that we often touch every single day.

When Connecticut passed HB6572 it passed the strongest bill in the country and made a statement that the Connecticut General Assembly is willing to put the safety of its residents before the profit of businesses. **There are safer alternatives to BPA** and once again the Connecticut General Assembly needs to lead the way and ban BPA in thermal receipt paper. The first step is getting the approval of SB 210 this committee and I strongly urge all of the members of this committee to pass this bill unanimously.

Sincerely,

Chris Corcoran
96 N Quaker Lane
West Hartford CT 06119



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ccej@environmental-justice.org www.environmental-justice.org

Testimony of Tom Kemble
In support of SB 210
February 23, 2011

My name is Tom Kemble from Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice. I am here to testify in support of SB 210 An Act prohibiting the use of Bisphenol A in thermal receipt paper and increasing the duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute. Bisphenol A or BPA is found on about half of the cash receipts we handle every day, in the form of an unbound powdery substance that rubs off on our hands, and can be absorbed through the skin. Many low income workers are employed as cashiers and are needlessly exposed to BPA as they handle cash receipts all day. They than go home and expose their families to the powdery BPA left on their hands. This exposure thus impacts low-income families in insidious ways. Exposure to BPA, is linked with cancers, early puberty, altered brain development, metabolic disturbances such as obesity and insulin resistance and other serious medical problems.

BPA is dangerous to developing children. The Connecticut state legislature has found it necessary to pass legislation banning BPA use in baby bottles, infant formula can linings, as well as beverage and food containers. The CT Departments of Public Health and Consumer Protection issued a warning in January of 2010 advising pregnant women to limit consumption of canned food and drinks because of the risk of BPA to the unborn child. We should now take the next step and ban BPA in cash receipts, because of the increased exposure many children have to BPA, as their parents unknowingly handle food with BPA tainted hands in the home.

BPA is a known endocrine disrupter and is linked, even before birth with cancers, early puberty, altered brain development, metabolic disturbances such as obesity and insulin resistance. The public health concerns involved with BPA is an example of why we need a comprehensive chemical policy that will identify the toxic chemicals of high concern and suggest safer alternatives. SB 210 will take us in this direction

Written Testimony of Pamela Puchalski, Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health (ConnectiCOSH), Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee, February 23, 2011, Testimony in Support of SB 210

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Pamela Puchalski and I am the Coordinator for the Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health's (ConnectiCOSH) Safer Chemicals in the Workplace Campaign that focuses on chemical policy reform in Connecticut. We are keenly aware of and strongly support the need to ban Bisphenol-A (BPA) from thermal paper receipts and we ask that you do so as well. We also strongly believe in the need to develop an organized and comprehensive approach to identifying and phasing out those chemicals that, while commonly used, are being linked to various cancers, reproductive and neurodegenerative disorders and learning disabilities.

In the case of BPA, we know that it is an endocrine-disruptor. It has also been associated with breast and prostate cancers, learning and behavioral disorders, insulin-resistance, diabetes, obesity, reproductive disorders, erectile dysfunction and cardiovascular disease. Although the Connecticut Legislature has banned it in baby bottles and other food storage containers, it has been found in high levels on thermal paper cash receipts unbound and easily transmitted to our hands and other objects that the receipts come in contact with. Pregnant women, be they cashiers or consumers, will be exposing their unborn fetuses, the most susceptible of us to the dangers of BPA, by simply handling the receipts as human skin can absorb the unbound BPA.

More than 82,000 synthetic chemicals have been produced for use in the United States since World War II. Only a small number of these have been adequately tested for their potential impact on the workers who use them and the consumers who purchase products containing them. OSHA has adopted workplace exposure limits for approximately only 7% of the chemicals used in the U.S. in high volume and the U.S. has only phased out five substances out of the approximately 80,000 in commerce. Workers who regularly come in contact with dangerous substances, such as cashiers who regularly handle BPA laden cash receipts, and who therefore receive a higher dose than the general public, will ultimately bear a disproportionate share of the adverse impacts of products made with toxic chemicals. A conservatively estimated 50,000 - 60,000 deaths occur in our country each year due to occupational toxic chemical exposures and other occupational illnesses. (Leigh, et al, 2000; NIOSH; Steenland, et al, 2003).

Toxic chemicals and heavy metals are widely used in products and industry, and threaten health and child development. Over 200 diseases and disorders are now linked to toxins in our everyday environments. The President's Cancer Panel found in 2010 that human exposure to harmful chemicals has been "grossly underestimated". In Connecticut, one of the largest occupational epidemiology studies in the US is currently assessing the links between chemical exposures in the workplace and a rare form of brain cancer.

Diseases associated with toxic chemicals are costly both to the individual and to our society as a whole. Last year's efforts to reform the federal Toxic Substances Control Act were stalled and so it is once again, up to the states to take up arms against the continuing silent invasion of disease causing chemicals. Let's not wait for more studies to show the link between chemical exposures and cancer and other illnesses among workers, consumers, and children. We should support a comprehensive approach to identifying and phasing out toxic chemicals now.

ConnectiCOSH promotes safer chemicals, safer products, and safer jobs. We need legislators to do the same. We hope that you will continue to vote Connecticut as a leader and an example in chemical policy reform by voting for Senate Bill 210.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Pamela Puchalski

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Testimony of Gretchen Raffa, Manager Public Affairs & Community Organizing
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, Inc
In support of
SB 210, An ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee, my name is Gretchen Raffa, from Planned Parenthood of Southern New England testifying in support of *SB 210, An ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.* Planned Parenthood of Southern New England's mission is to protect the right of all individuals to control their own fertility. Over the past decade new studies continue to demonstrate that environmental contaminants and exposure to chemicals can have a detrimental effect on one's reproductive health. As a trusted provider of women's health care to over 70,000 patients every year we are committed to educating ourselves and patients about the dangers and health risks from exposure to chemicals such as Bisphenol-A (BPA) for women and their families.

There is growing scientific evidence that shows some industrial chemicals, called hormone disruptors can cause serious risk for women's health such as infertility, breast cancer, polycystic ovarian syndrome, uterine fibroids, endometriosis, miscarriage and shortened lactation. BPA is a hormone disruptor which can mimic natural estrogen and what we are learning is that the timing and level of exposure can affect how a woman's body develops and functions. Studies demonstrate that the chemical is harmful at both low and high doses of exposure, and that the timing of exposure during critical windows of development—especially during fetal development—may cause irreversible and grave problems with the reproductive system both earlier and later in life.[i] Hazardous chemicals in everyday products such as cosmetics, personal care products cleaning products, our environments and in things we touch every day such as thermal paper receipts get into women's bodies, breast milk, and in the womb.

What research confirms is more women are experience difficulty in conceiving and maintaining a pregnancy, which affected 40% more women in 2002 than in 1982 The incidence of reported difficulty has almost doubled in younger women, ages 18-25[ii,iii] There is evidence of a growing trend in the U.S. toward earlier breast development and onset of menstruation in girls. Studies suggest that endocrine-disrupting chemicals, particularly estrogen mimics are important factors associated with altered puberty timing. [iv] Yet no chemicals are currently regulated under the Toxic Substances Control Act because of their potential harm to reproduction or development. But other authoritative bodies have listed more than 50 industrial chemicals as reproductive toxins.[v]

Planned Parenthood of Southern New England is committed to promoting reproductive justice and we have long fought for a woman's right to control her reproductive destiny. We have a growing concern that the complexities of a woman's environment, including her physical geography, race, class, access to healthcare to name a few, can play a debilitating role on her fertility. This is why we have turned our attention to reproductive toxicants, such as BPA, that are affecting the ability of women to become pregnant, have a healthy pregnancy, and give birth to a healthy child.

Testing confirms that over 90% of our population carries BPA in their bodies and the time is now to reduce exposure to women, men and children. Thanks to the members of this committee, Connecticut has been a national leader in passing strong legislation to protect the health of children and the environment by phasing out lead, mercury and BPA but we cannot continue to ban one chemical at a time. We urge you to support SB 210. We at Planned Parenthood of Southern New England believe this is an urgent matter of reproductive justice. All women should be guaranteed the right to control their own fertility, to bear healthy babies and live in safe and healthy communities. Thank you.

[i] Guttmacher Policy Review Winter 2010, Volume 13, Number 1 http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/gpr/13/1/gpr131810.html
[d] Anjani Chadra and Elizabeth Hervey Stephen, "Impaired Fecundity in the United States 1982-1995," Family Planning Perspectives, 30, no 1, (1998): 34-42
[ii] Kate Brett, "Fecundity in 2002 National Survey of Family Growth Women 15—24 Years of Age," Hyattsville, MD, National Center for Health Statistics (2008)
[iv] Susan W Euling, et al , "Role of Environmental Factors in the Timing of Puberty "Pediatrics, 121, S3 (February 2008) S167-71
[v] California Environmental Protection Agency, "Proposition 65 The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986," Chemicals Known to the State to Cause Cancer or Reproductive Toxicity List as of September 11, 2009

Testimony of John Murphy of the Connecticut Citizen Action Group
Before the Environment Committee in Support of
Senate Bill 210 -- *AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE*

February 23, 2011

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, members of the Environment Committee,

My name is John Murphy and I am here representing the 30,000 member families of the Connecticut Citizen Action Group (CCAG). CCAG is proud to be a lead partner with the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut. CCAG strongly supports SB 210 *An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute.*

CCAG is concerned about the health of Connecticut citizens and supports common-sense legislation that reduces exposure to harmful chemicals. We are aware of the growing body of research that links exposure to toxic chemicals in many consumer products with serious diseases.

Of grave concern is the fact that recent research shows that bisphenol-A, a known endocrine disruptor, is a component of many thermal paper receipts found in ATM machines, gas pumps and cash registers. In this context, BPA is unbound and readily transmits to our hands and through the skin and we in turn can transmit it to others. We are especially concerned about store clerks in check out lines that handle these receipt papers for hours on end, each day.

A growing body of scientific research links BPA exposure to breast and prostate cancers, reproductive disorders, obesity and insulin resistance, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Yet, we now learn that due to the legal loopholes in the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), pregnant mothers can unknowingly transmit this chemical to their developing fetus just by doing the weekly grocery shopping.

This is particularly alarming when the incidence of childhood brain cancers and leukemia, breast cancers and other serious disorders linked to BPA are on the rise. With efforts to reform TSCA stalled, states like Connecticut are taking the lead to pass laws that protect citizens from these harmful chemicals as much as possible. This spring, thirty states introduced efforts to pass more comprehensive chemical policy

reforms. Connecticut is recognized for its leadership in passing the strongest ban on BPA in the country. In fact, several states right now are introducing legislation similar to what Connecticut passed in 2009. We must continue to lead the way and drive federal reform by banning BPA in thermal paper receipts once a safer alternative is identified. SB 210 does just that.

The presence of BPA in receipts is just one more example of why the U.S. Congress needs to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act. Until that happens, CCAG applauds the leadership of this committee in working to pass state laws that create a more sustainable framework for protecting Connecticut's citizens. We support the goals of SB 210 and urge members of this committee to vote in favor of this bill. Thank you.

Testimony of Tim Morse, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Chemical Innovations Institute, University of Connecticut Health Center on SB 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

Good morning Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and members of the committee. Thank you for this opportunity to express the views of the Chemical Innovations Institute (CII) at the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) on Section 2 of SB 210 with respect to the proposed expanded role of CII. I am testifying in support of the overall purposes of SB 210, and we have some suggestions in relation to the role of the Institute that we feel may strengthen the approach.

Connecticut (and this committee) are regarded as leaders in the development of approaches to safer alternatives to toxic chemicals, and the Chemical Innovations Institute is happy to be part of that process. Increased use of safer alternatives results in lower exposures to workers, community, and the environment. There are estimated to be over 80,000 chemicals in common use in the United States and yet we continue to have extensive data gaps concerning toxicity and usage patterns of these chemicals, The Toxic Substances Control Act, as well as chemical regulations by OSHA, are widely considered to be inadequate and out of date, and new international regulations on the use of toxic chemicals, such as the European Union's REACH program, have taken the lead and have important implications for Connecticut industries and overseas exporters. As a result, it is important for many States in this country to take the initiative in promoting the prevention of toxic materials and provide resources and incentives for the use of safer alternatives.

The Chemical Innovations Institute was created by the Connecticut Legislature last year to assist the State by providing research, education and training to Connecticut businesses, state agencies and community groups in assessing toxic chemicals and evaluating the availability of safer alternatives. As the committee is well aware, as a result of a tight fiscal conditions, the CII was not appropriated any funds or other resources by the Legislature, and therefore the Public Act included a provision that we were not required to carry out the duties under the Act unless we are able to secure adequate funding through grants and other means. Currently, we are actively seeking alternative funding sources to carry out the mission of the Institute. As of yet, we have not been able to secure such core funding, though we hope that modest amounts of financial support from private foundations and individuals may be forthcoming later this year. As a result, our achievements in the past year have been limited. We have assembled – with nominations made by Legislature leaders of both parties – a nine-member Board of Directors, representing different stakeholders in the state. We are now in the process of developing a business plan for scoping out programmatic activities if funds become available, outlining an operating budget for carrying out such tasks, and further developing a fundraising approach.

We have been able to accomplish some meaningful results. We have a current grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to conduct research for the adoption of green cleaners in workplaces. In addition, we have just completed a study, published in the *Journal of Cleaner Production*, that estimated chemical usage by manufacturers and businesses based in Connecticut, using the template of chemical reporting data of similar industries in Massachusetts. This study estimated that approximately 75 million pounds of chemicals were used in non-chemical manufacturing sectors and an estimated 600 million pounds in the chemical manufacturing sector in Connecticut. Additionally, we found that about half of the total listed chemicals were either carcinogens or posed reproductive hazards. These preliminary estimates indicate the need for better understanding of actual Connecticut workplace use patterns and for increasing the promotion of safer alternatives that would benefit both Connecticut workers and downstream users of manufactured products.

In relation to the expansion of duties of the Institute contained in the second part of SB 210, we are supportive of the need for a broader approach to dealing with chemicals rather than substance by substance, and the Institute would like to have an important role in that process, assuming the availability of adequate funding. In respect to the bill, we would

like to work with the committee to optimize the role of the Institute in this process, given our strength in research and education rather than regulation, historical focus on the workplace use of chemicals, our role of working with businesses to reduce the use of toxic chemicals, and reliance on grants and fundraising to advance the area. In regard to the duty of providing a list of chemicals of high "toxic concern" t the legislature, we suggest that a study of existing lists where the Institute would work with our Board and relevant state agencies to provide the legislature with recommendations might be the best approach to this, which might include workshops for input from stakeholders. Connecticut's participation in the Interstate Chemical Clearinghouse would provide useful information for such a study. It might be difficult to do this on an annual basis, particularly without a dedicated funding stream. I believe it is understood by the Committee that such lists focus on intrinsic toxicity of chemicals, and that usage patterns and amounts determine the likelihood of problematic exposures, and so such a list is just a starting point in relation to potential legislative activity. The university can provide research and education functions but has no regulatory process, so the responsibility for regulatory action would, of course, lie with the legislature and/or regulatory agencies.

Providing a list of safer alternatives to the legislature has some significant practical problems. Chemicals have a vast amount of applications and uses, and safer alternatives (which may include an approach that uses no chemicals at all) are very application-specific. Additionally, there is as yet no central repository of safer alternatives. Therefore, we do not believe it is feasible to develop a generic list of safer alternatives, particularly if a list of concern covers dozens or hundreds of chemicals. However, there may be some ways of highlighting particular alternatives that have been developed as part of a study, or providing alternatives noted by programs such as EPA's Design for the Environment, Green Seal, and Green Chemistry research programs. It would also be useful to better understand chemical usage patterns in the state workplaces in relation to potential lists of chemicals of high concern so that educational and outreach activities to businesses can have maximum value; this would require a significant amount of work, since there are not currently good available information on actual use patterns.

We believe that the proposed expansion of the Institute duties in this bill would also be covered under Section i of Public Act 10-164, which provides that we would not be required to carry out those duties if we are not able to secure funding; this is an important provision to retain since we do not currently have funding for such activities, and cannot guarantee that we would have funding in the future.

In conclusion, we would be happy to work with the committee to maximize the usefulness of the Institute in relation to a broader approach to safer alternatives.

That concludes my testimony. I would be glad to entertain any questions you may have.

Tim Morse, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, Chemical Innovations Institute
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Written Testimony of Susan Eastwood of Ashford, CT,
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee,
February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Good morning Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today in support of SB 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

My name is Susan Eastwood. I am a resident of Ashford, CT and I work with Clean Water Action and the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut, a group of over 50 non-profits working to phase out toxic chemicals from everyday products. I am also a parent of children with asthma and allergies, which is what brought me to this work in environmental health. I talk every day with other parents and with health-affected individuals who wonder what effects chemicals of concern are having on their families. Or worse, wondering if something in a rubber duck or a sippy cup could have been the cause of their child's autism, or cancer! In many cases, we just don't know, but research findings are adding up in the case of bisphenol-A.

The chemical bisphenol-A (BPA), a known hormone disruptor that has been linked to cancer, infertility and early puberty, has been found in alarming amounts on – of all things – our money! BPA was also found on cash receipts in even higher levels. Safer Chemicals Healthy Families and the Washington Toxics Coalition tested thermal paper cash receipts and dollar bills and found that half the receipts contained large quantities of BPA, in a powdery coating which easily rubs off on our hands, our money, and presumably, anything else that we touch. Of 22 dollar bills tested, including some from Connecticut, 21 of them were contaminated with BPA. (The full report, "On the Money: BPA on Dollar Bills and Receipts", can be found at www.saferchemicals.org.) Estimated exposures for the average person could equal or exceed the amounts we ingest in our food daily. For cashiers the risk grows exponentially. Fortunately, not all thermal papers contain BPA. If safer alternatives are available, why not use them?

BPA is especially dangerous to developing children, and I am proud that Connecticut has passed the strongest law in the nation to protect young children from this dangerous chemical. The CT Departments of Public Health and of Consumer Protection issued a warning in January of 2010 to pregnant women to limit consumption of canned food and drinks because the BPA in most can linings presents a risk to their unborn child. But more action is needed to protect all of us from unavoidable exposure to BPA in our daily lives. The high levels of unbound BPA on thermal receipt papers are a shocking example

of how impossible it is to shop ourselves out of this problem. I encourage the legislature to act quickly to phase out BPA from thermal receipt papers!

BPA is just one example of many toxins found in our everyday products. Many studies have linked toxins to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's as well as asthma, infertility and learning disabilities. Young children and developing fetuses are especially vulnerable; exposure to even a small amount can affect a child for life. Last year, the President's Cancer Panel Report[1] stated that exposure to toxic chemicals is a serious risk factor for many cancers and called for urgent reform of ineffective chemical laws. Strengthening the Chemical Innovations Institute is a good step towards achieving that goal in Connecticut. This year, 30 states are introducing legislation on BPA or other toxics reform. Passing **SB 210** will help lead the nation forward on this important issue.

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for their leadership in this area. Please make passing **SB 210** a priority this legislative session. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Susan C. Eastwood
178 Waterfall Road
Ashford, CT 06278

TESTIMONY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, FEBRUARY 23,2010 Good Morning. My name is Joyce Acebo Raguskus, Chair of Diesel Cleanup, Environmental Concerns Coalition, & Coalition for Safe & Healthy CT/ Clean Water Action and advocate for many other environment coalitions.
I am here before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee, February 23, 2011 giving Testimony in support of:

SB 210 An ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

I have attached the recent editorial article from this weeks newspaper SNOW MELTS TOXIC CHEMICALS DON'T, that I wrote in support of SB210, a key toxic chemical issue, bisphenol A, to be reviewed as top toxic priority and placed in the competent hands of our new Chemical Innovations Institute, securing a strong bridge to the businesses and the bodies of concerned citizens.
I hope you take a moment to read the article and share with your constituents.
Looking back when I was an active single parent for a little boy, in 1986, I never knew what this yet another TIP OF THE TOXIC ICEBERG CHEMICAL WAS....BIS PHENOL- A....AND WAS DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER when my boy was just 12. I am grateful and humble to be here and be able to support cleaning up of such toxins that almost everyplace we look, leaks and lurks.. something that needs are hand and not to transfer such chemicals nor have to wear surgical gloves every place we go, but to get toxins out of our reach and those of our loved ones including for four legged ones.
I spent all afternoon yesterday at St. Raphael's hospital listening to the ping of an MRI and thought if I can help to prevent another from having to following up with their survival and lesson exposure to toxins and lend support for all the important work that you, our legislators and our environment committees is faced with, I am grateful to do so.
Thank you for all that you do.
Joyce Acebo~Raguskus
174 Eastern Parkway
Milford, Connecticut 06460

The snow will melt away but all the toxic chemicals don't

By Joyce Acebo – Raguskus

Guest Column

Like snow toxic chemicals has a blanket and mask and can come in the shape of fun. Toxic toys, (mercury, lead, cadmium), makeup for our faces, and shampoos to keep us looking shiny, food containers/cans are sprayed with the toxin (bisphenol A, an endocrine disruptor, is also discovered on most store/grocery receipts and then transferred on our dollar bills, like germs, (use plastic gloves if you are a cashier, and wash hands so as not to further transfer bisphenol- A, BPA)

State Sen Ed Meyer introduced SB210 Child Safe Products with reference to further BPA protection Yes, we serve it on our tables to our families via exposure Toxins are often hidden in furniture, carpets and the couch cushions we sit on and cozy up on especially on these winter days . and on our yards that have been sprayed with horrific poisons, when the grasses were green and further run off into our drains to poison further the life in our nearby waters, down the drain.

We have plowed our way to banning pesticides on school grounds, k-8. and day cares but our backyards are waiting healthy organic alternatives, yes alternatives! Remember those Yellow flags notifying children and animals to stay away! Birds and fish don't have as much of a chance. Poisonous pesticides in the name of grooming are the poison of lawn care? Now is the time to do your research into healthy alternatives to change unhealthy habits

Sen Meyer has introduced SB244 to allow municipalities to ban and regulate use of lawn care pesticides in our towns.

Toxic chemicals we breathe in, (such as smoke from outdoor furnaces adding serious health hazards, Senate Bill 860, N Alderman), and we taste, and swallow into our only bodies, can, be altered. Some fall and are sprayed in the winds, into nooks and cranny's of incredible spaces, melts and seeps falling into places where darkness grows .. making a menace of living... Some mount up in our bodies, our children's bodies with their new lungs, brains, endocrine systems, complex neurological transmitters/ vulnerable minds and feed obesity.

We dig out, clean out only from what we see or are informed of. The thaw will come and damage will be exposed and we and children will be visiting hospitals with lung problems, too many cancer clusters, breast cancers, manifesting in early twenties, developmental problems, autism, and let us not forget, dementia We will be faced with a new season of new exposure to making more decisions and choices, for ourselves and our neighbors, and using wisdom about prevention and exposure to toxic chemicals. Chemicals that have come to be a meal and all of us are walking around with belly full. More and more toxic chemicals which need to be plowe away and out of our reach The exposure to our life and childre to toxic pesticides, we 'continue' to insist on using on our lawi when there are wonderful organic alternatives, soaked the soil ar earth beneath the many blankets of snow

Now is the time to think, make better, choices for the well beir of our living..ie, that would be you, and me and our children ar theirs

We have people working hard on bringing prevention and n poisons to our tables and back yards. Connecticut people ar representatives, wants you to use them, to help them clean up o choices, provide better alternative to support bans on toxic chem cals that we ingest and swallow and breathe in, to damage infan and adults, causing disease There are no boundaries Connectic leads with passing the baby bottle bill, the strongest Bisphenol A b in our United States

We did it with you, and because of you University Connecticut's Chemical Innovations Institute newly established ar key, in working together with Connecticut businesses to bring sa products to our homes and bodies.

"The only way to reduce toxic contamination is to require testir of products before they come in the commerce," states UC Riversi professor Carl Cranor and author of "Legally Poisoned."

There's much to be shoveled and floods of chemicals to l removed from our environment venues and veins. We will begin dig ourselves out again and again of the toxic chemical exposure

ASK QUESTIONS/MAKE HEALTHIER CHOICES, and get touch with our Environment Committee, Chairman Richard Ro Richard Roy@cga ct gov, and our Co-Chair, Senator Meyer, 1-80 842-8267- 1420, The Coalition for Safe & Healthy CT/Clean Wat Action, seastwood@cleanwater org, and Environment and Huma Health Inc., 1191 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473

Joyce Acebo-Raguskus is chairwoman of the Diesel Cleanu Environmental Concerns Coalition in Milford

Milford-Orange Bulletin

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Letters to the Editor

Proposed budget too high

To the Editor,

A Letter to the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Milford;

I apologize for not making it to the meeting on Monday night to voice my opinion concerning the proposed budget Unfortunately, I was busy trying to reduce my own personal budget by about $200 a year It doesn't sound like much but when you pay over $7,000 a year in real estate taxes every little bit helps

Had I been at the meeting, I would have asked only one question concerning the budget, "are you out of your minds?" The Federal Government is hemorrhaging deficits beyond belief, the State is short in excess of $3 billion (that's Billion) and you clowns in Milford City Hall want to spend 7 percent more money on the city side of the budget and 4 percent more (oh! sorry 3 84 need to worry about saving money, we're in the black " At tl risk of repeating myself "Are you out of your (expletive delete minds?" The only reason we are in the black is because our fi cally irresponsible politicians keep raising our taxes. And, if yc think the State is going to pony up one nickel for a city that is " the black," then I want some of what ever it is that you guys a smoking

Paul V Josl
Milfo

Thank you mail carriers

To the Editor,

I am writing to express thanks to my mail carrier This has been a difficult winter for residents throughout the state While at the Amity Post Office to pick up packages, I inquired as to why I did not receive mail for two days I was politely informe

001338

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TESTIMONY RE: Committee Bill 210 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Environment Committee Hearing

February 23, 2011

Good morning Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee, Thank-you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA), the professional organization for registered nurses in Connecticut.

I am Mary Jane Williams Ph.D., RN current chairperson of Government Relations Committee for the Connecticut Nurses Association and professor emeritus from Central Connecticut State University. I also serve a co-chair of Policy and Advocacy for the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments at the national level. I have practiced nursing for over 45 years and have been educating nurses in Connecticut in both the public and private sector for over 35 years.

Connecticut Nurses' Association's speaks in strong support of which would begin the phase-out of Bisphenol A (BPA)" for use of available safer alternatives.

What is BPA?

BPA is an industrial chemical best known for making polycarbonate plastic and epoxy resins. Found in hard plastic water bottles and baby bottles, coatings inside metal food and drink cans, paints, adhesives and other products. BPA is an estrogen-mimicking chemical that, in tests on animals, has been shown to interfere with the reproductive system. Because BPA, mimics the biological activity of estrogen, many scientists worry that the chemical might induce harm by perturbing hormone signaling in exposed individuals. recent studies provide reason for some concern about the potential effects of BPA on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland of fetuses, infants and children." Indeed, a developing child — particularly a fetus or infant — faces the greatest risks from BPA (FDA).

BPA and Thermal Receipt Paper

BPA is used as a developer in some thermal receipt paper. BPA is commonly found in thermal labels, tickets and tags. Examples include supermarket labels, event tickets, airline baggage tags, etc.

Variability and Predictors of Urinary Bisphenol A Concentrations during Pregnancy, (Environ Health Perspect) have linked handling thermal receipt paper with absorption of Bisphenol A, the seemingly ubiquitous, estrogen-mimicking hormone disruptor. The studies' authors recommend that pregnant women stay away from thermal receipt paper, and wash their hands after handling it. BPA absorption is also linked to sexual dysfunction in men. Multiple studies find the highest levels of concentration of BPA in Cashiers, a job dominated by women.

Since 1950, over 82,000 chemicals have been introduced into commerce and are found in the products we use every day. Only a handful of these chemicals have been tested for safety because, under the federal Toxic Substances Control Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must prove that a chemical causes an

unreasonable risk to health before it can be regulated. As a result of this burden, EPA has only been able to regulate five of these chemicals.

In the last several years significant amount of independent research demonstrates that many of these chemicals are carcinogens, neurotoxins and endocrine-disruptors. The issue is whether the presence of these chemicals in our bodies, particularly during critical phases of development, is associated with diseases? Significant research on Human Subjects is not available, however, animal research supports the links during critical stages of development to such as BPA.

Drs. Needleman and Landrigan, two noted researchers, stated that without knowing if exposure to these chemicals is safe, we are, by default, conducting a massive clinical toxicology trial, and our children and their children are the experimental animals."([1] Herbert L. Needleman M.D., Philip J. Landrigan, M.D. (1994) "Raising Children Toxic Free)"

Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute

CAN believes that the initial goals set forth for the Institute are essential to the state of Connecticut if we intend to be competitive in a Global Market place. In order to accomplish those goals the volunteers who staff the Institute must find funding a yeoman's task in this economy. It would therefore be beneficial to adhere to the primary goals until the Institute is properly funded and utilize the Coalition as a means to bring forward lists of toxic chemicals as they are published and shared by other reputable sources.

We urge you to support this legislation related to BPA it is essential to the health of the public.

Written Testimony of Beka Apostolidis, RN, MS of Cromwell, CT, Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee, February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Beka Apostolidis. I am a resident of Cromwell CT. I am in writing because I strongly support SB 210 An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute.

I am very concerned about toxic chemicals in products we use every day, like receipts! In particular, I am very concerned about children's exposure to these chemicals. I've been a nurse for 15 years and am also clinical faculty at UCONN where I teach nursing students on the Oncology unit at Hartford Hospital. I am also a breast cancer survivor. Two years ago, at age 35, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. After going through two surgeries, radiation and oral tamoxifen, I am happy to say that my cancer is gone. I also lost my father to leukemia in 2004. My mother is a breast cancer survivor and we lost our 2 family dogs to cancer.

As a nurse and cancer survivor, I know that the cause of cancer and many serious diseases is still unclear. In my practice and as faculty, I see patients both young and old, battling serious cancers. But I do know that more and more scientific research shows that exposure to toxic chemicals is linked with these diseases. The 2010 President's Cancer Panel Report states 41% of Americans will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives and determined that the true burden of environmentally induced cancer has been grossly underestimated. [1]

While we can not do scientific human studies to prove causal relationships between exposure to toxic chemicals and cancer, there is an enormous amount of evidence that links exposure—even prenatally-to many diseases. In nursing, we are taught to use the precautionary principle when there is risk of harm. I applaud CT lawmakers for their leadership on this issue but we must do more. With over 82,000 chemicals in commerce and new evidence of things like BPA on cash and ATM receipts, we must adopt laws that apply the precautionary principle. We need to focus on prevention just as much as treatment. CT is recognized as a national leader thanks to the lawmakers in this room. I hope that we can continue to keep up the fight!

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[1] President's Cancer Panel Report Annual Report 2008-2009, "Reducing Environmental Cancer Risk-What We Can Do Now." (April 2010) (found in executive summary, letter to the President)

Thanks to the members of this committee, Connecticut has been a national leader in passing strong legislation to protect the health of children and the environment by phasing out lead, mercury and BPA but we cannot continue to ban one chemical at a time. SB 210 is another step in the right direction. Connecticut should again take the lead nationally to ban BPA from thermal paper receipts once a safer alternative is identified! Parents should not have to wonder whether common household products, like bedding, toys or food can linings, are damaging their children's futures! I urge you to pass SB 210.

Sincerely,

Beka Apostolidis, RN, MS
52 Clubhouse Drive
Cromwell, CT 06416

From the Children's Environmental Health Center at The Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Statement in support of Senate Bill 210, An Act Banning Bisphenol□A from Thermal Receipt Paper and Increasing the Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute

February 22, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

As scientists and physicians at the Children's Environmental Health Center at The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, a Collaborating Centre in Children's Environmental Health of the World Health Organization, we strongly support Senate Bill 210, An Act Banning Bisphenol□A from Thermal Receipt Paper and Increasing the Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute. This legislation has the potential to reduce exposure to this toxic chemical, by eliminating a widespread source of BPA exposure, cash receipts made of thermal paper.

BPA is a toxic chemical that affects the endocrine system, and has been associated with obesity, diabetes and cancer, among other adverse health outcomes. Reducing exposure to BPA is an important public health move, and eliminating it from thermal receipt paper can have a large impact.

Despite making up a relatively tiny percentage of BPA use and market share, BPA in cash receipts may have a large potential public health impact. Recent studies have confirmed the substantial concentrations of BPA found on thermal receipt paper, as well as the potential for the toxic chemical to transfer from the paper to skin, where it can be absorbed into the body. Particularly for workers exposed regularly to cash receipts, such as cashiers, the possibility of a harmful chronic exposure looms large. Retail workers make up a large percentage of American jobs, and recent research has found that they are indeed exposed to higher levels of BPA than other Americans.

We applaud efforts to find alternatives to BPA in thermal paper, such as the EPA's BPA Alternatives in Thermal Paper Partnership, which seeks to replace this toxic chemical and find

safer alternatives for American consumers and workers. Senate Bill 210 takes an even stronger approach by eliminating BPA from thermal paper entirely, thus protecting the health of the public and especially of fetuses and children, who are most vulnerable to exposures to toxic chemicals. As leaders in public health and Preventive Medicine, we strongly support this legislation.

Written Testimony of Judy Sparer, Certified Industrial Hygienist at the Yale Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program, New Haven, CT before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of
SB 210 An ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

My name is Judy Sparer, and I work in New Haven at the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program at Yale University Medical School in New Haven.

I am writing in support of SB 210, an Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute. I am taking the trouble to write this because I feel strongly about both aspects of this bill.

Where I work the doctors see patients who are sick from exposures at work or in the environment. They have developed illnesses because of exposures to lead, or mercury or solvents or isocyanates or asbestos at work or at home or chemicals that have gotten into their well water, or any of a host of other environmental contaminants, some of them "natural" like asbestos or lead, though concentrated by human efforts, some of them that would never had existed had humans being not developed them. My job, as the industrial hygienist, is, if the exposure is continuing, to go to that person's workplace or the site of the exposure, assess the risk of that exposure and help them reduce or eliminate the exposures. Often, ending the exposure can help the person. Sometimes the damage is already done, and reducing or eliminated that exposure helps others how would have been exposed otherwise and prevents them from developing the illness.

You have heard hours of testimony about the hazards of BPA and I won't repeat that here. BPA is associated with many illnesses and disorders. Other responsible bodies in Canada and in Europe have examined the evidence and taken steps toward eliminating exposures at least for children. Many "useful" chemicals like BPA, the compounds used to make our pans non-stick, flame retardants, are being found in pristine waterways, and in the blood of Connecticut residents, and our just born children. As a person who has spent most of my working life trying to reduce exposures to things that we have known are harmful for decades if not millennia, I urge you to take action before any more people are harmed by this chemical. BPA can be replaced, it is being replaced. This bill can speed that process and make it more effective. Please act now.

This leads me directly to why I support the second part of this bill, the part about getting serious about a Chemical Innovations Institute. It just makes good sense to provide some assistance to those who want to eliminate harmful chemicals in their products, chemicals which their workers also handle, but need some help in figuring out how to do that. This is a wonderful opportunity to get in early on the kind of work our state should be supporting to not only help the

environment but to keep our educated workforce in Connecticut doing needed, cutting edge work.

So please, give your enthusiastic support to SB 210. It is a good beginning.

Sincerely,

Judy Sparer
38 Brownell St.
New Haven, CT 06511

Written Testimony of Steven Schrag of Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee

February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Steven Schrag and I am a resident of Waterbury and a member of the Connecticut Council on Occupational Safety and Health, a coalition that brings together unions, occupational health professionals and injured workers focused on reducing workplace hazards and protecting workers rights.

I am in writing because I strongly support SB 210 An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute.

I am concerned about toxic chemicals in products we and our children use every day, like receipts!

BPA, a known endocrine disruptor, is used in many thermal paper receipts! This BPA is unbound and easily transmits to hands and into our skin. BPA has been connected to serious diseases including breast and prostate cancers, reproductive disorders, obesity and insulin resistance, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. We need to limit our exposure to BPA, particularly in something like receipts that we often touch every single day. M teenage son worked in a Dunkin Donuts and I travel over 30,000 miles ever ear so we both have had much contact with these potentially toxic pieces of paper.

I am concerned about the research that shows the harmful effects of exposure to these chemicals. Much scientific research links exposure to chemicals in consumer products to diseases such as cancers, diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's as well as asthma, reproductive disorders and learning and behavioral disabilities. This is especially alarming when latest statistics show that many of these diseases are on

the rise. For example, the incidence of childhood cancer, specifically leukemia and brain cancer increased by more than 20% between 1975 and 1990, 1 out of 2 men, and 1 out of 3 women will be diagnosed with invasive cancer, and autism has seen a ten-fold increase in just over fifteen years. The President's Cancer Panel Report (2010) stated that exposure to toxic chemicals is a risk factor for cancer and this exposure has been grossly underestimated. Young children and developing fetuses are especially vulnerable, as we now know that the timing of exposure, rather than the amount of exposure, is critical. Analysis of umbilical cord blood on babies born in the U.S. found over 287 chemicals including carcinogens, pesticides, and industrial chemicals! Recent studies show that carcinogens like formaldehyde, perflourinated compounds and flame retardants which are neurotoxins are commonly found in children's products. There are over 50,000 chemicals in commercial use. Of the 284 that have gone through peer reviewed testing 144 are known carcinogens, 53 of these are regulated in the workplace b OSHA but only 21 are given regulations for cancer causing substances. There is too big a hole in our current system.

The European Union is in the process of phasing out hundreds of chemicals of high concern as part of their REACH legislation. Many countries are following the lead of the EU, including China, and U.S. manufacturers will have to find and use safer alternatives in order to stay competitive in the world market. While reforms to the Toxic Substances Control Act are stalled, states are increasingly working to pass legislation that protects citizens from the most harmful chemicals.

Thanks to the members of this committee, Connecticut has been a national leader in passing strong legislation to protect the health of children and the environment by phasing out lead, mercury and BPA but we cannot continue to ban one chemical at a time. SB 210 is another step in the right direction. Connecticut should again take the lead nationally to ban BPA from thermal paper receipts once a safer alternative is identified! Parents should not have to wonder whether common household products, like bedding, toys or food can linings, are damaging their children's futures! I urge you to pass SB 210.

Steven Schrag
14 Quentin Street
Waterbury, CT 06706
(203) 574-7966

CBIA

Connecticut Business & Industry Association

TESTIMONY OF
ERIC J. BROWN
CONNECTICUT BUSINESS &INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (CBIA)
BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 23, 2011

Good morning. My name is Eric Brown and I serve as associate counsel with the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents roughly ten thousand small and large businesses throughout Connecticut employing hundreds of thousands of Connecticut citizens.

CBIA strongly opposes the proposed changes in section 2 of Committee Bill No. 210, An Act Prohibiting the use of Bisphenol-A in Thermal Receipt Paper and Increasing the Increasing the Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute.

CBIA worked diligently with advocates and this committee to reach a compromise on the original bill first proposed just last year. We made it clear that the most important issue for us was that the Institute not be directly involved in advocacy.

Specifically, our public hearing testimony stated:

> "HB-5126 hints at an approach that could help further these goals. Part of the stated goal of the institute proposed in the bill would be to 'provide assistance to businesses, state agencies and nonprofit organizations that seek to utilize safe alternatives to chemicals that are harmful to public health and the environment.' However, CBIA has serious concerns that the concept could easily result in an organization that is more interested in identifying chemicals of concern and involving itself in public policy efforts to ban or otherwise legislate those chemicals, all at the expense of some new mandated fee on industry."

Further, Tim Morris, the principal architect of the Institute idea stated in his testimony:

> "Connecticut manufacturers need to be aware of the regulations and be able to access safer alternatives to chemicals in order to successfully export products.
>
> "We anticipate that a "Chemical Innovations Institute at UConn Health Center will be helpful for the transition to safer alternatives through (1) providing expertise in relation to current and future chemical policy changes through integration with national and international networks, including the Interstate Chemical Clearinghouse, (2) providing training to Connecticut businesses and workers on chemical assessment and evaluation of

safer alternatives, (3) providing a linkage to green chemistry efforts to develop safer alternatives, and (4) in helping businesses evaluate the effectiveness of the alternatives."

The ultimate language adopted in the statute is consistent with this intent, stating that the Institute was created to be:

- "a resource for information"
- "provide research and technical assistance"
- "share information"
- "offer trainings for businesses"'; and
- "assist businesses in indentifying funding to be used for the implementation of sustainable, chemical-related processes by such businesses"

In fact, the language of the bill throughout last year's committee process included a section that stated:

> "(j) The Chemical Innovations Institute shall not engage in lobbying, as defined in section 1-91 of the general statutes."

As the bill was about to be introduced on the House floor, House legal staff advised that that language be removed as it was redundant with current law regarding lobbying by quasi-public agencies.

In introducing the bill on the House floor, Chairman Roy introduced an amendment removing the language saying of the lines containing the language, "We do not need them."

During the floor debate in the House, Ranking Member Clark Chapin asked Chairman Roy to confirm that the purpose of those lines would "still be in tact even after we remove them because it's addressed elsewhere in the statute. Is that correct?"

Rep. Roy responded, "Yes, that is correct."

Accordingly, the record clearly indicates that the modification proposed in section 2 of Bill No. 210 is directly counter to the intent and purpose of the Chemical Institute. Unfortunately, some who agreed to this concept last year have chosen to return this year and try to undercut last year's agreement.

This is very disappointing and we hope this committee will reject this effort by extracting section 2 of the bill.

Testimony on SB210

My name is Tom Kemble. I am a member of the Connecticut Coalition on Environmental Justice (CCEJ). I wish to testify in favor of SB210, An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A in Thermal Receipt Paper and Increasing the Duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute.

In 2009, our legislature passed the strongest ban of bisphenol-A (BPA) in the country - removing it from baby bottles and children's products as well as recyclable food and beverage containers. In 2010, the legislature established a Chemical Innovations Institute at the UCONN Health Center.

Although we have become a national leader in addressing toxic chemicals, CCEJ believes we need to do more
because of recent findings on BPA prevalence and transmission. Something all of us handle every day - receipts from cash registers and paper money - contains unbound BPA. It is on the surface of virtually all cash register and credit cards receipts, and has been shown to be transmitted to hand-to-hand currency in purses, wallets, and clothing pockets. SB210 would prohibit the use of BPA in thermal receipt paper.

SB210 would also increase the duties of the Chemical Innovations Institute. The legislature should make very wise investment in CII that would repay the State many-fold. They welcome questions and comments which may be directed to Tim Morse, Ph.D.,Professor and Director of the CII, at tmorse@uchc.edu.

To: Members of the Environment Committee
From: Mia Davis, Co-Leader, National Workgroup for Safe Markets
Re: **SB 210** *An act banning bisphenol-a from thermal receipt paper and increasing the duties of the chemical innovations institute*
Date: February 22, 2011

I am writing to urge you to support the provisions of the bill **SB 210** *An act banning bisphenol-a from thermal receipt paper and increasing the duties of the chemical innovations institute.* We know enough to act to prevent unnecessary exposures: There are hundreds of peer-reviewed journal articles linking low doses of bisphenol A to harm, and there are now several studies indicating that receipt papers are a likely source of significant BPA exposure.

BPA is a hormone disruptor with estrogenic properties. It disrupts the body's endocrine system, which can result in negative effects on many organs in the body. This is why BPA exposure has been linked to a range of health effects, from the early onset of puberty to hyperactivity and from obesity to breast and prostate cancers. It is important to understand that hormone disruptors do not act like other toxicants, most of which have greater impact in higher volumes, leading to the old adage "the dose makes the poison." Chemicals that disrupt hormone levels have adverse effects at very low doses because they block or mimic the body's own hormone system. Exposure to BPA in the womb, in infancy or during childhood development is particularly concerning because the body is undergoing critical growth and development at these times, and chronic exposure to BPA may lead to serious and irreversible health effects that might not surface for years (like early onset of puberty, or breast cancer). I am therefore particularly concerned with pregnant women working as cashiers, handling this paper throughout their workdays, and for pregnant customers and children who take the receipts from cashiers- and we know that these receipts are just one route of exposure to hormone disruptors in their day!

It makes good scientific sense to support this bill. Even if we were to take a very conservative approach to evaluating the 200 or so studies that find harm from low doses of BPA, together with the handful of studies that find that free BPA easily rubs off of paper and is absorbed into our bodies, the take home is clear: the links between incredibly small doses of BPA during critical windows of development and serious, irreversible health outcomes are too strong to ignore, especially when manufactures have already created safer packaging and when they can create additional safer alternatives. To allow BPA to continue to enter a person's bloodstream by leaving it in receipt paper is to commit some percentage of the population to harm. When there are other options, that is simply unacceptable.

It makes good business sense to support this bill. For the past five years the National Workgroup for Safe Markets, a diverse non-profit coalition, has urged baby bottle, water bottle, and food can manufacturers to phase out of BPA packaging. We were at first told that it couldn't be done, and then we watched as consumer demand grew and the market phase out of BPA commenced. Even the petrochemical giant Sunoco began requiring customers to guarantee that BPA manufactured by Sunoco is not used in food- and water-contact applications for children under three years of age. The company will no longer sell BPA to customers who cannot make this promise. Companies, and certainly not companies like Sunoco, do not make these decisions lightly. When scientists raised concerns about dermal absorption from thermal receipt paper we heard much less from companies about keeping BPA in paper; Interestingly, some

companies began to manufacture and use BPA-free paper right away, and to promote this healthier option. Clearly, the safer alterative to BPA thermal paper already exists, and more manufactures will work to fill this growing niche and to show that they value their brand reputation and the health of their workers, customers, and the environment.

BPA-free thermal paper would go a long way toward reducing BPA exposure, and simply put, it's what people want. No one should have to worry that the food they feed their loved ones is contaminated with chemicals that could harm them. I hope that Connecticut will continue to be one of the states leading our nation on important matters of environmental health legislation.

Written Testimony of Anne Hulick, Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut, Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee, February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Anne Hulick, RN, MS, JD and I am the Coordinator of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut (CSHC). I am also a nurse with many years of experience in environmental health. CSHC is a large coalition comprised of over fifty member organizations of health professionals, environmental justice advocates, labor groups, public health professionals, environmental experts, faith based groups, scientists and many individuals across Connecticut that are concerned about the growing body of research linking exposure to toxic chemicals with the rise in serious diseases.

I write in strong support of SB 210 An Act Prohibiting the Use of Bisphenol-A In Thermal Receipt Paper And Increasing the Duties Of The Chemical Innovations Institute. The Coalition would like to thank the members of this committee for their commitment and leadership in passing landmark legislation banning toxic chemicals from children's products and creating the Chemicals Innovations Institute at the University of Connecticut. Connecticut is recognized nationally for these efforts, particularly for passing the strongest ban on bisphenol-A (BPA) in the country!

SB 210 is another step in the right direction. Recent research documenting the presence of BPA, a known endocrine disruptor, in thermal paper receipts is shocking. In thermal paper, BPA is unbound and readily transmits to hands. The recent study done by the Washington Toxics Coalition, showed that large quantities of BPA, up to 2.5 mcg, transferred to a person's hands after only ten seconds of holding the receipt. The chemical then readily transfers through skin or can be transmitted to others or other items, like our money. Handling thermal paper receipts means our cumulative exposure to BPA is much higher than previously believed.

We've all heard the arguments that BPA is safe in products and the exposure is too low to cause harm. That is not what the science is telling us. Over 200 independent scientific studies document that very low doses is linked to a staggering number of health problems including breast and prostate cancer, obesity, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder,

altered development of the brain and immune systems, lowered sperm count and early puberty. Exposure to BPA is particularly harmful during critical phases of development. We know that the placenta is not a barrier to a developing fetus. Recent analysis of umbilical cord blood from babies born in the U.S. showed the presence of 287 toxic chemicals including carcinogens, pesticides, neurotoxins and other industrial chemicals. Our babies are being born polluted! Evidence now suggests that it is the timing of exposure rather than the amount of exposure and exposure during fetal development poses a significant risk.

There is growing consensus that exposure to toxic chemicals, like BPA, is associated with the rise in incidence of many serious diseases. For example, the incidence of childhood cancer, specifically leukemia and brain cancer increased by more than 20% between 1975 and 1990, 1 out of 2 men, and 1 out of 3 women will be diagnosed with invasive cancer, and autism has seen a ten-fold increase in just over fifteen years. The health care costs, and costs to businesses, as a direct result is unsustainable. In January, the NIH reported that expenditures for direct cancer care alone would reach at least $158 billion dollars by the year 2020!

The European Union is in the process of phasing out hundreds of chemicals of high concern as part of their REACH legislation. Many countries are following the lead of the EU, including China, and U.S. manufacturers will have to find and use safer alternatives in order to stay competitive in the world market. While reforms to the Toxic Substances Control Act are stalled, states are increasingly working to pass legislation that protects citizens from the most harmful chemicals. Banning BPA from thermal paper receipts as soon as a safer alternative is identified is one more significant way to protect public health.

The Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut also supports Connecticut's efforts to create a more sustainable framework for identifying chemicals of high concern and phasing them out of products. The Chemical Innovations Institute, once funded, will be a tremendous resource to state businesses and agencies to assist with shifting to safer alternatives. We urge support of SB 210 and hope that further work can be done to engage key stakeholders in determining the best process for this complex task. SB 210 continues the work of protecting Connecticut's citizens from BPA and assures that Connecticut remains a national leader in the goal of chemical policy reform.

We urge your support of SB 210.

Sincerely,

Anne Hulick

Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut
645 Farmington Avenue, 3rd floor
Hartford, CT 06105
860-232-6232

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ENVIRONMENT
PART 5
1371 – 1695

2011

Written Testimony of Susan Eastwood of Ashford, CT,
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee,
February 23, 2011.

Testimony in Support of:
Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE

Good morning Senator Meyer, Representative Roy and members of the Environment Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today in support of SB 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER AND INCREASING THE DUTIES OF THE CHEMICAL INNOVATIONS INSTITUTE.

My name is Susan Eastwood. I am a resident of Ashford, CT and I work with Clean Water Action and the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut, a group of over 50 non-profits working to phase out toxic chemicals from everyday products. I am also a parent of children with asthma and allergies, which is what brought me to this work in environmental health. I talk every day with other parents and with health-affected individuals who wonder what effects chemicals of concern are having on their families. Or worse, wondering if something in a rubber duck or a sippy cup could have been the cause of their child's autism, or cancer! In many cases, we just don't know, but research findings are adding up in the case of bisphenol-A.

The chemical bisphenol-A (BPA), a known hormone disruptor that has been linked to cancer, infertility and early puberty, has been found in alarming amounts on – of all things – our money! BPA was also found on cash receipts in even higher levels. Safer Chemicals Healthy Families and the Washington Toxics Coalition tested thermal paper cash receipts and dollar bills and found that half the receipts contained large quantities of BPA, in a powdery coating which easily rubs off on our hands, our money, and presumably, anything else that we touch. Of 22 dollar bills tested, including some from Connecticut, 21 of them were contaminated with BPA. (The full report, "On the Money: BPA on Dollar Bills and Receipts", can be found at www.saferchemicals.org.) Estimated exposures for the average person could equal or exceed the amounts we ingest in our food daily. For cashiers the risk grows exponentially. Fortunately, not all thermal papers contain BPA. If safer alternatives are available, why not use them?

BPA is especially dangerous to developing children, and I am proud that Connecticut has passed the strongest law in the nation to protect young children from this dangerous chemical. The CT Departments of Public Health and of Consumer Protection issued a warning in January of 2010 to pregnant women to limit consumption of canned food and drinks because the BPA in most can linings presents a risk to their unborn child. But more action is needed to protect all of us from unavoidable exposure to BPA in our daily lives. The high levels of unbound BPA on thermal receipt papers are a shocking example

of how impossible it is to shop ourselves out of this problem. I encourage the legislature to act quickly to phase out BPA from thermal receipt papers!

BPA is just one example of many toxins found in our everyday products. Many studies have linked toxins to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's as well as asthma, infertility and learning disabilities. Young children and developing fetuses are especially vulnerable; exposure to even a small amount can affect a child for life. Last year, the President's Cancer Panel Report[1] stated that exposure to toxic chemicals is a serious risk factor for many cancers and called for urgent reform of ineffective chemical laws. Strengthening the Chemical Innovations Institute is a good step towards achieving that goal in Connecticut. This year, 30 states are introducing legislation on BPA or other toxics reform. Passing **SB 210** will help lead the nation forward on this important issue.

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for their leadership in this area. Please make passing **SB 210** a priority this legislative session. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Susan C. Eastwood
178 Waterfall Road
Ashford, CT 06278

[1] President's Cancer Panel Report Annual Report 2008-2009, "Reducing Environmental Cancer Risk-What We Can Do Now." (April 2010) (found in executive summary, letter to the President)

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PART 2
332 - 628

2011

Institute, which is, I should say to committee members, in its infancy and reliant on receiving grants for its survival. So -- so we're talking about an Institute that's just getting going. And anything we, on this committee, can do to help you, we're happy to do it. Thank you, Tim, for coming today.

TIMOTHY MORSE: Thank you, Senator Bye, and members of the committee.

I'm Tim Morse, a professor and director of the Chemical Innovations Institute at UConn Health Center. And I'm happy to testify in reference to Bill 915.

I've provided more detailed, written testimony on background and -- and some of the things that we've been doing over the -- over the past year, so I'm just going to summarize here, and then happy to answer questions and get into more detail.

SB210

The Institute was created last year as a way to provide research education and training to Connecticut businesses, state agencies and community groups in assessing toxic chemicals and evaluating the availability of safer alternatives.

The basic background was actually more workplace based, so chemicals that are being used in the workplace as opposed to consumer products but -- although we have an interest in -- in both but that's are background. We -- we're formed out of an occupational environmental health unit at UConn Health Center, so that's our -- our -- really our background is working a lot with businesses over the years.

Connecticut because there's still not good data on that, and so we'd like to explore that further.

We're trying to find the best vehicles for educating workers and employers on how to assess their chemicals and then identify safer alternatives and help provide a marketplace between, really, in a research-to-practice model of looking at the green chemistry programs, such as at Yale and other places, working with the Interstate Chemical Clearinghouse for ideas on safer alternatives and problem chemicals and lists of chemicals, and helping to provide that to Connecticut citizens and businesses.

I testified yesterday in the Environment Committee on Senate Bill 210, which adds a duty to provide a list to the Legislature of high priority toxic chemicals. And I think that, you know, the role of the University is best around research and education.

We don't have a regulatory mechanism so we can certainly do a study, and -- and are happy to work with the Legislature to try to figure out how to do that, assuming we can get funding to look at lists that are being compiled in other states, Maine, Washington or up in European Union, those kinds of things, and try to see what might be useful as a priority list. But I don't think that we have a role of providing regulatory recommendations. That we really want to be more on a research and education basis, particularly since we want to have a cooperative relationship with Connecticut businesses, and labor and community groups, and -- and don't want to be in that kind of a politicized situation, would rather be in a --

REP. BYE: And so, I think, for this committee to see -- our using our flagship research university and medical school to help us understand these problems is a really important role of this committee. And you know, all the committees cross over, and we just had a long presentation about public health and safety with nursing (inaudible).

TIMOTHY MORSE: Uh-huh.

REP. BYE: This really has to do with disease prevention and -- and helping to assure our citizens are safe and healthy. So I appreciate your leadership. I also have to say I really appreciate your very clear sense of what the mission is and what it shouldn't be, because it helps all of us. You're sort of unwavering clear vision so -- and I appreciate you taking the time -- I know how busy you are -- to come back today.

TIMOTHY MORSE: Happy to come.

REP. BYE: Thank you so much.

TIMOTHY MORSE: Thank you.

REP. BYE: This concludes our public hearing unless there's anyone else. Is there anyone else in the room who would like to -- oh, sure.

Eric Brown, from CBIA. Good afternoon, Eric. I thought you might have an interest in our hearing today.

ERIC BROWN: Oh, very much so. I'm -- I'm delighted this is my first time, I think, in my 17 years with CBIA to testify before the committee. SB915 SB210

So, for the record, I am Eric Brown, with CBIA. And I just wanted to follow up. We -- we also testified yesterday in Environment on the Chemical Institute bill. And I'm extremely encouraged to hear you're sensitivity about the mission of the institute and -- and the impact that that could have on its -- its -- on its usefulness, and certainly how industry would look at the -- the Institute. And I think anything you can do to help keep it out of the political arena -- there is a great need -- while there are many institutions around New England and the nation that study toxic chemicals and put lists together, and so forth, I think one thing that -- that is a primary role that this -- this Institute could play, is helping educate businesses about alternative chemicals, international standards, as Doctor Morris said, and, basically, trying to move Connecticut into a more green chemistry future.

SB210

From our perspective, industry is ready and -- and more than willing to use alternative chemicals if -- if they're available, and they're, you know, roughly within the same price range, although, you know, understanding -- you're going to generally have to pay a little premium to go green, but that's okay, and as long as they do the job they're supposed to do.

So we're big on promoting green chemistry as -- as a -- as a, sort of, alternative to the sometime necessary, you know, banning or restrictions of chemicals. But we like this side of the equation much better, and we really appreciate your sensitivity to trying

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Senate Bill Number 11 as amended by Senate Schedules "A" and "B" in concurrence with the Senate.

Total Number Voting	145
Necessary for Passage	73
Those voting Yea	131
Those voting Nay	14
Those absent and not voting	6

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Bill as amended in concurrence with the Senate passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 627.

THE CLERK:

On Page 33, Calendar 627, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 210 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER. Favorable Report of the Committee on General Law.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question is acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the Bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark? Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Madam Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of Senate "A", LCO 8298. I ask that he be allowed to call it and that I be given permission to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 8298, which is Senate "A".

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 8298, Senate "A", offered by Senators Bye and Meyer.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Objection? Objection? Hearing none, Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Madam Speaker, thank you. This Bill mandates the removal of --

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Oh, Representative Cafero.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Unfortunately, we don't have copies of the Amendment that is about to be called or has been called.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

We will stand at ease.

REP. CAFERO (142nd):

Thank you.

(Chamber at ease.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin, good evening. Representative Reed. We'll come back to order and you may continue.

REP. REED (102nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. This Bill mandates the removal of Bisphenol-A that we all commonly known as BPA from thermal receipt paper by October 1, 2013 and I move adoption of the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question before the Chamber is on adoption. Will you remark further on Senate "A"? Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As we all know, BPA is a toxic substance. We've taken the lead in Connecticut in banning it from baby bottles and formula containers.

We now have discovered that it's also in thermal receipt paper. We know that it's an endocrine disrupter. Medical research increasingly links breast and prostate cancers, reproductive disorders, infertility, learning and behavioral disorders such as ADHD, obesity, insulin resistance, and if that's not enough, all kinds of cancers and fetal development can be impaired by exposure.

We want to move for passage of the Bill as adopted, I mean, as amended. Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, madam. Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

I'm sorry, Madam Speaker, was she moving adoption of the Amendment?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

She moved adoption.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Of the Amendment?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Yes, she did.;

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Through you, some questions to the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed. Representative Chapin, please proceed.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Can the proponent tell me how large of a problem this is. Does she know if there's a certain percentage of cash register receipts that contain BPA? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, 60 percent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and if I'm recalling the debate from prior years about BPA, and I believe I heard the gentle lady talk about some of the problems, health problems associated with it, is the issue here that the person who receives the receipt comes into contact with the BPA and that 60 percent of the receipts that they receive?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes. The person who receives the receipt comes in contact with it, but also it's very difficult to get off your hands and leaches through your clothes, and if you put it in your pocket or in your purse and you have baby toys in there and snacks and that kind of thing, it just begins to be transmitted, so the exposure is well over the individual who collects the receipt. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And again, through you, as I recall from this Bill coming through the Environment Committee this year, this is a relatively new issue here, at least in this building.

Can the gentle lady tell me whether other states have either considered adopting similar legislation or whether they already have? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker. Several states are exploring it as we speak and the federal EPA has a task force that is trying to find a safe substitute and feels that it will find one by the end of 2011, so we created the 2013 date in order to allow businesses to have time to acquire the safe product and to get rid of their current inventory. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and again, through you. If EPA's task force doesn't come up with a safe alternative, what happens then in this Bill?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, then we will have to wait for a safe alternative. We don't, there is an alternative that's on the market now that actually is also deemed to be toxic, so we want to wait for a safe alternative.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As I look at lines 10 through 16 it would appear, at least in my interpretation, that if no alternative is found, that we still require a ban on the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, or distribution as of July 1, 2015. Is that the proponent's interpretation as well? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, that is correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. So even if in 2015 there hasn't been shown that there is a safer alternative, what would happen in that case? Would those people using cash registers, would those receipts be, would they have to go to a more expensive alternative?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker. I think the philosophy here is to put some pressure on the industry to find a safe alternative, and if none is available, we can revisit this issue at a later date. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the gentle lady for her answer.

To be honest, Madam Speaker, I'm not sure whether the legislation before us is warranted at this point. I do appreciate the effort to push the dates out, and certainly with the proponent's commitment to continue to look at alternatives in the future, I will be supporting it today.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you sir. We are remarking on Senate "A". Would you care to remark on Senate "A"? Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. If I may, just a couple of questions to the proponent of the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think it was just discussed, but one of the concerns I have with the provision that we're doing is, in the situation where there currently is not an alternative on the market, is there an anticipation, was there any testimony to

indicate that there was going to be some sort of alternative to this type of receipt paper? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, there is testimony that the federal EPA task force feels that it is close to finding a safe substitute and so we are encouraged by the progress that they've made and that's what we're hoping for, but obviously, we're keeping other options open as well. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And as this is an absolute ban, are there any alternatives that are suggested in the language in this Amendment? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, I believe that we are keeping an option open to revisit it should no

alternative arrive before the date of mandated discontinuing.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Chapin, Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate that quick correction.

I know we've had discussion and testimony about BPA being harmful if ingested, and we've certainly heard those debates when it related to baby bottles.

Was there testimony that indicated that there's a correlation for BPA to be able to be ingested through the skin, specifically through this type of receipt paper?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (86th):

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes. It appears on the thermal receipt paper in an unbonded form, so in other words it's not part of the product. It's sort of, you know, very easily transferable and it's very

clear that it leaches through the skin and enters the system.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And it's my understanding that BPA, the studies have shown that that chemical, while it does get ingested in the body through many products, it also passes through the body and they're not sure, you know, to what levels it becomes harmful.

Has there been studies that has made the determination of what level of ingestion is harmful to humans?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Madam Speaker, there are different levels that are talked about, but the reality is that those are also debated numbers as well.

The real feeling is that all the peer review of the studies that are being done show mounting evidence

that it is dangerous, that in small doses it's exceedingly dangerous to developing fetuses and that in many ways we've only begun to really discover the proclivities that this toxic substance has for causing health damage.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I appreciate the good Representative's answers to my questions.

Madam Speaker, one of the concerns I do have with the underlying Bill, while I certainly share the issues of the impact of BPA potentially, we don't really know to what degree of ingestion has an impact on individuals.

And certainly we debated this Bill last year and as it pertained to baby bottles and to the liners in cans, and we passed that legislation in an attempt to address that issue. And I could see where in situations of food, we want to avoid the ingestion of BPA.

But there are so many products out there in our food stream that still, where it still exists. It's

in Tupperware products. It's in all sorts of food containers, that this General Assembly hasn't even begun to scratch the surface.

And so I'm a bit puzzled why today we're taking up BPA in thermal register paper, because to me, that is such a remote concern that there is going to be exposure to ingesting BPA into the body through a receipt paper.

Where I would think that if we're truly concerned with this issue, we should continue our focus on the baby products and on food products.

And I know last year, and I can't recall the specifics, but even then when we began to look at those products and began to ban them, there are some issues of contractual relations with the state that have caused us to sort of pull back and rethink that.

And we're now going off into another direction where we're beginning to sort of haphazardly, I would suggest, regulate an industry that frankly I'm concerned, because I don't think we're going to see any benefits, any health benefits by eliminating thermal paper.

But I think what we are going to see is again, an anxiety in our retail industry because they rely on

this tape, and it's really the only product out there that our retail industry relies on.

And what I'm hearing is, there's no other alternative out there to replace this product. So we're going to pass a law that granted, the ban is some time down the road, but I feel like this particular Amendment is putting a sandbag over companies heads and they're going to just wait for that to drop, and hopefully an alternative is going to be found in time before that sandbag falls.

But if there is no alternative, why are we just removing this, when I don't believe, unless somebody's eating the register paper, I don't really believe there's any way for exposure to be really that much of a concern.

And I don't mean to suggest to minimalize the effects of BPA because when I served on Approps it was an issue that I was certainly interested in.

But I get concerned with this when we look at it in the context of other legislation we proposed, like our paid sick leave Bill, which is hitting our retail industry. It's hitting those companies that are dealing with, you know, our sales clerks and the food industry, the restaurant industry.

The reality is that any alternative is potentially going to turn into a requirement that these guys are going to have to be replacing all of their point of sale systems. That is the exposure.

And these point of sales systems are upward of from $4,000 to $10,000 per business in the State of Connecticut.

And again, I can't even suggest that I'm weighing $4,000 to $5,000 against human health, because I don't believe that there are studies that have made that correlation that commercial receipt paper is going to lead to somebody to get cancer.

Certainly, the studies are still early and they're still out there, and it would make sense that BPA in food products where you're actually eating it, could be a problem for human health.

But in this situation it seems to lack common sense that there would be this kind of connection, and so I think that we're jumping the gun a little bit quick here.

It's another regulation that rather than us sit here, try to study it, try to come up with a solution, we're just piling it on to private business to sit

here and try to come up with a way of addressing this situation.

And even if it had a major health impact on our communities, I would think that it is imperative on the State of Connecticut to address this situation and remedy the situation and not put it on the backs of our businesses and the private sector to figure out a way to get out of this.

Because what I could see happening now, a couple years from now, is if we have no alternative. What we're saying here today is that businesses, you've got to figure out a way to come up with receipts. And the concern is now they're going to have to go to either ink-jet printers to print out receipts, which can take a long time so the lines can pile up when individuals are trying to check out at the grocery store and get their receipts. They're going to have to wait for an ink-jet printer, or they're going to have to look at writing hand receipts, and in some businesses they might have to go to carbon copies because they're going to need to keep a copy for themselves and a copy for their customers.

Certainly there's impacts to the banking industry with how those receipts print out. The retail

industry is required to retain a receipt for themselves for the purposes of collecting for the banks if they ever have a fraud issue with credit card receipts. Yet, they're still going to have to turn over a receipt to their customers, which is also an issue.

And so, these are the things that I think this Bill needs to address before it moves forward. And again, these are the reasons why we get tagged with being such a business unfriendly state.

And don't get me wrong. Don't misunderstand me. The underlying health issues potentially with the exposure to Bisphenol-A is critically important to us.

But I think it's also critically important before we take a step forward to understand what the impacts are on a health level and on the business level and figure out how we solve that problem, and this Bill doesn't solve any problem. It just creates more problems.

It basically says, I guess in 2015, July of 2015, we're going to punt this so that if this is such a great health issue, then we should be banning it today. But we're not doing that. We're going to ban it in 2015.

So what we're doing here is, we're still exposing communities to Bisphenol-A through register receipts for the next couple of years, and so I have to believe if it's that much of a concern, then I would believe that we should be banning this immediately.

The fact of the matter is, we're not. We're putting it out two years, so I've got to believe just intuitively this isn't that much of a dire harm to the public.

So now what we're doing is again sending that message to business. We're going to give you two years to figure it out. We think it may or may not be a health issue, but let's just put it onto their laps. So you know where the interest is going to lie.

It's not going to become a real health interest where we as a General Assembly is going to study the effects of BPA and really determine where the problems are, where this chemical is in our society, and let's really go after it.

What we're going to do is, we're going to say to business, you guys either figure out how to disprove our belief that Bisphenol-A is bad in credit card receipts, so now they're going to start lobbying or

expending money to try to show us that it's really not harmful having this product in credit card receipts.

Or, they're also going to say, what am I going to do to be able to operate my company in Connecticut? And it doesn't sound like too big of a deal but if you think about it, so much of our businesses rely on credit cards. So much of our economy relies on credit, and all of those transactions are done through this thermal paper, and so this has a dramatic impact on our industries. It's significant.

And the fact that we're not banning it immediately is telling me it may not have that equal amount of urgency and impact on the health of our residents because we would have banned it right now.

And it would seem to me when I see, you know, legislation go through here that deals with the food issue with Bisphenol-A, and we put that out, I believe a couple of years. And now we're seeing another piece of legislation go out and it's putting it off for a couple more years.

We are setting ourselves up for a quandary here in that we're just punting all these issues, and I think we're putting the private sector into a tizzy to

try to figure out how this market is going to work, and we ourselves aren't dealing with the problem.

And if it's ever a time that the State of Connecticut should be looking at this public policy issue, it is now, and the way we should be looking at this issue, and I don't say this very often, but is creating a task force, and it probably would behoove us to expend some money in this area with a task force, rather than just having an outright ban of this particular receipt paper.

Because with a task force, we could address the issue of what the impact would be on an individual's health in receiving a receipt that has Bisphenol-A on it, and would also, we could expand it to deal with the health issues and solve this problem once and for all.

And I think we could save money through healthcare if in fact it is causing cancer.

Or, you know, what this Bill doesn't attempt to do in dealing with the receipt paper, you know, so many times when you go to the cash register, people don't even take the receipt. It gets printed out and they walk away and the receipt ends up in the garbage can.

And so I would think that a study to determine how many times these receipts really end up in somebody's purse would make a lot of sense, because then we could determine how many times people really would be exposed to Bisphenol-A through a receipt paper, because I've got to believe 80 percent of the time this product is thrown into the garbage. It does from the shelf into the garbage, so there probably is no exposure to the public.

And what we've done here today is we spent a lot of time. I believe the underlying Bill addressed this issue so I think it went through the whole public hearing process and we probably spent a lot of time debating this issue through a Committee, and come to find out we would probably find out that 90 percent of the product is thrown in the garbage, and nobody even has contact with it at all. So it would make sense to find out.

I am concerned I guess again, with the impact potential it would have on manufacturing. And I'm just wondering, Mr. Speaker, if I just ask a few more questions to the proponent of the Amendment, through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

I'm assuming that this concept received a public hearing? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes, it did.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and was there any manufacturers, anyone that came forward within the State of Connecticut that indicated that they manufacture this product? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, just looking through the notes, no.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And were there any distributors in Connecticut that came forward to testify about the product that they distribute?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, no.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess when we had the underlying Bill, did it discuss an absolute ban on this product by 2015? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry, I couldn't hear the end of the gentleman's question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora, would you care to repeat your question?

REP. CANDELORA (86t)0:

Sure, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just wondering if the underlying Bill that was subject to the public hearing discussed an absolute ban to the product.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes it did.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And also, I see language in here that limits the, I guess the ban to a commercial entity in line 5. So is the particular ban limited to commercial, or does this really have the effect of, the intent is, the effect is to eliminate the paper altogether?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, initially, obviously commercial, but as a businesswoman myself and looking

at markets and market trends and the kinds of things that happen to business where it's a very good idea to see where the world is turning and how to preserve and protect your business, I would assume that it's going to have an impact on the larger industry in terms of encouraging them to find a safe substitute. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And then finally in Section d, 17 and 18, there's just some language here that the provisions may be enforced by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Does that language suggest that we're going to see regulations in how we are going to be going about enforcing this ban? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, it is not detailed but I think one assumes as we've all experienced these things evolve, at some point regulations will need to be promulgated. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I guess I don't have any further questions. I appreciate those answers.

And again, I guess I just, I have to reiterate. I appreciate the answers about the public hearing testimony. It certainly doesn't dissuade my position at all on this underlying Bill.

I again think the language is troubling that in lines 10 through 14, we are basically saying that if the United States Environmental Protection Agency doesn't identify a safer commercially available alternative, that we are going to have an outright ban on July 1, 2015.

It seems that we've really punted this issue right off of our plate and we're leaving it up to either one, the federal government to come up with an alternative, which never really necessarily to me seems to be an efficient way to handle something that we find so important as a public policy to this state.

But then two, if they don't find an alternative, there's no onus on the State of Connecticut to come

back and try to figure out an alternative. We just say we're just going to ban it.

And so we leave it up to the private sector to figure out how we're going to address this situation. And the ones that are going to need to find an alternative aren't necessarily the people involved in our healthcare industry, the pathologists and the people that worry about cancer and the effects of exposure to chemicals.

The people that are going to need to look for an alternative is the private market, because by creating an outright ban in 2015 we would be satisfying the requirements of the healthcare industry and environmentalists because this product is going to be gone. It's going to be off the shelf.

So when 2015 hits and this product is gone, which may be a great thing, the business community has no alternative, so now we've left it up to them to come up with it. And retail industry is not equipped and shouldn't have to be equipped with engaging in research and design to try to figure out how they're going to give receipt paper to their customers. It doesn't make any sense to me at all.

To me, what should be happening here again, as a public policy, the State of Connecticut should be taking this by the reins, if this issue is this important, create a study, ban it, but come up with an alternative, because leaving it this way solves nothing. All it does is make sure that this product is gone, not tomorrow, but two years from now, and we leave our retail industry, our business industry, our business to business industry, which is manufacturing. I'm sure they deal with thermal paper. They're left to figure out alternatives.

And again, it may not sound like too big of a deal, but as we know in this world, businesses rely on paper for their transactions. We've seen it here. We've tried to go paperless. We've had our task force. We've had studies, and we can just look around this room. We're not even close to going paperless.

So this is a significant part of the engine of our economy and again, I'm not saying let's minimize the health risks because certainly we shouldn't be minimizing that issue. That issue should be studied and it should be studied now.

But to potentially ban a product that we don't know how many companies are relying upon and then not

putting forth any alternative could be devastating to our state, and I guess the only thing I could hope for is that every state in this country and every country in the globe is going to follow our lead in the next year and ban it, too.

Otherwise, Connecticut yet again is going to be put in a disadvantage from a business perspective.

I mean, I didn't like having to look at the New York Times article I believe it was in that was talking about progressive this state has become and we've become sort of a laughing stock to business, between the paid sick leave Bill and the tax hikes that we've put on the industry.

This very industry that has to deal with thermal paper, which I know is far sweeping, but I do talk about the retail industry. It's certainly near and dear to my heart because I do run a retail business in this great State of Connecticut.

But in less than a month, I've got to figure out how to absorb a .35 percent income tax increase, how to absorb the cost of paid sick leave, and now I have to find out how to absorb the cost of banning thermal paper.

So either I've got to create a coalition among business owners in the State of Connecticut to begin to research an alternative by 2015 or maybe invest in replacing a POS system, which is going to be for me, over $5,000, and I would gladly do that if we had studies showing the risk of this paper exposure, but we don't have that.

We don't have any studies conducted by DEP. We don't even suggest any type of research studies to be done in this Bill to see what these health effects are.

And meanwhile, we have so many other products that are out there on the market, so many products that still have BPA in it, where people are actually ingesting.

And so I'm a little bit puzzled why we are picking on thermal paper. And maybe at first blush it's an easy one because it's something that's, you know, that's not purchased by the consumers directly, so it's not something that would really impact them like when we talked about, I think it's Sclafani Company, the ones that have the food product in them where people eat them, and of course they're going to

want their good canned Italian products to purchase and eat.

So you would see your consumers coming out and saying, well don't ban that and let's really see what the health risks are. In this, you think, well who cares about thermal paper because nobody really realizes how it impacts their life, and especially the fact that so many people just throw that thermal paper in the garbage. They're probably not even thinking of the health risks associated with thermal paper.

And I have to believe, I'm sure there are, you know, if we just sat in a store for about an hour, we will see that most people don't even take these receipts. Certainly they wouldn't hand it to their kids to chew on.

So, really outside of that, I just don't see how this paper is going to get absorbed into the system. I could understand if Bisphenol-A was in clothing, if people might have wore this receipt on their body somehow that yeah, then it would get into the pocket. But typically this goes into the garbage. It does into your pocket. Most times it ends up in the laundry and goes through the dryer and it ends up

becoming lint, and at that point in time when it gets washed there's probably no exposure to BPA.

Also, my understanding with the Bisphenol-A is, when it's in the plastic products, which is certainly an issue, especially when it's used in microwaves, that once that product is heated up, when it's in its heated state is when the BPA comes out of the product and that's when people have a risk of exposure.

So certainly when it heats up it goes into the food and that's when people are likely to ingest it. When this thermal paper comes out of the machine and I've had a lot of experience with this, the paper is so think it cools down very quickly, and so I have to wonder at the point in time that paper cools, how much of the BPA is really coming out of that paper anymore, because when it does cool, my understanding is that the BPA is no longer emitted.

An interesting fact, I believe in a study I had read, is that even if you wash a product that has already been heated, and it cools back down, when you heat it again it could re-emit the BPA, so I could see that studies would show, and I know there are studies out there that have dealt with Bisphenol-A and how it

relates to the food and it emitting out of the food product.

But in terms of the thermal paper, I'm just not sure it translates that way. But again, I'm not sure that people are really eating this paper, and I'm not sure how it really gets into your skin other than on your hand and again, usually it's thrown into the garbage or it goes through your washing machine and people never really see these receipts otherwise.

So Mr. Speaker, I certainly as I have said, I could appreciate the issues that this Bill is trying to address. When we first saw this creep up, I think back in 2007, it was much more of a controversy because we weren't sure where the science was going on BP, and I think a lot of people on this side of the aisle opposed it vehemently back on '07. I think rightfully so because the studies weren't nearly there to show that this product has a real extreme health risk.

And since I've not been on any committees that have dealt with this issue as of late, I have not continued to see where the studies have gone, but I've certainly seen that recently there seems to be some indication that there is a heightened risk of health

exposure. But the studies I've seen have been limited to the food products and that type of ingestion.

And so I don't want to minimize that fact that that seems to be where the science is going, and that's the area I think that we should be continuing to address. I'm not sure whatever happened with that latest Bill that we had dealing with our food products because I think most of us had voted for it and I think that we wanted to see that pursue. I think we might have had a study in there somewhere, but that was an area that was going in the right direction.

This legislation just, I don't know what happened but the wheels came off the train. This legislation just isn't nearly going in that same direction. I would have loved to have seen a study in here.

I would have loved to seen the State of Connecticut commit some dollars to this project and especially I think, coming out of my mouth, that is a significant statement because I don't advocate for us to be spending money in these economic times, certainly, but the reality is we do have a surplus.

We certainly have many people at the federal level, in the science levels, the bioscience levels that are committed to studying this issue, and I think

that Connecticut should be locking arms with these individuals and joining the fight to study this issue and make sure that we get it right first.

And I'm not saying delay for the sake of delay. I am saying, let's figure out the effects of this and let's get the right alternative put into place because what I would want to make sure that would happen is that it is the right alternative.

And the way this legislation is written, it doesn't necessarily lead us to the right alternative, because as I've said, with an outright ban, we are leaving this in the hands of the private sector, the business community, to try to come up with that alternative, and when they feel like they have a sandbag or a noose hanging over their neck, there is not necessarily going to be the greatest motives. There's going to be rush to a solution, and in doing so, we could be coming up with an alternative that is much worse than the one we have right here.

And I suggest that because if this product is so bad, then why aren't we banning it July 1, 2011? We could do that. But we're not doing that. Not even close. We're not banning this product until July 1, 2015.

And even worse, we're wiping our hands and we're walking away because what we're saying in this language is, federal government figure it out. If you can't figure it out, private sector, we're just banning it.

Connecticut is removing itself from the entire discussion of the health effects of BPA in this thermal paper. This is the exact opposite message, I would think, that we would want to be sending as a public policy message to the community, to the people that feel so strongly about Bisphenol-A in thermal paper.

The message that we should be sending to these people who want this product eliminated is that we are going to study this and get rid of it, and maybe that study could come back by November, 2011 and we could be looking at an alternative by then and an outright ban a year from now.

I would probably support an amendment like that, because then it shows, at least, that the State of Connecticut is committed to studying this issue, coming up with an alternative, and making it safe for the residents of Connecticut and also giving the

business community a product that they could use as an alternative.

And this isn't about just making money for a community. As I said before, this is part of the engine that drives our economy because paper drives everything.

So to just ban this product really creates a quandary for businesses and it's outright absurd. There is no common sense in this Bill.

To me, we've again told the health community we don't care. We're going to leave it in the stream and we're going to let you continue to be exposed to it for the next four years. To the business community, four years from now you're going to have to figure out some alternative, and what's going to happen?

If any business is going to move to the State of Connecticut, again, they do planning and studies just like everybody else, except the State of Connecticut. We don't do any studies. We just vote to ban things based on some information down the road.

But businesses are going to analyze the State of Connecticut and they're going to say, well, I want to move here, but if I move here, four years from now I'm going to have no paper that I need to operate my

business. It sounds crazy coming out of my mouth. It sounds extreme, but that's what this Bill does. This Bill is extreme.

So, it sounds crazy but it's not. So potentially you're going to see companies say I'm not going to do this. I mean, between this and other legislation, why would they come here? And the ones that are existing here, they're the ones that have that noose around their neck. They're going to say, oh great, how am I going to figure this out?

And I tell you, as somebody that operates a business in this community that just like everybody else gets affected by this type of legislation, you get that pit in your stomach. And it's not about disagreeing with the policy. It's that pit in your stomach of how the heck and I going to make payroll? How am I going to keep paying my bills and figuring this stuff out, because all of this stuff gets put into my lap to figure out, not for the State of Connecticut.

And ladies and gentlemen, if we want to advance these public policies, I say let's go for it. Let's advance them. Let's debate the policy. But let's be real about it.

We can't be continuing to punt this type of legislation onto the backs of the private sector. That's what this does. That's why this is so offensive.

And for me, even if I agreed with an outright ban on Bisphenol-A in thermal paper, I'm in no position to write a press release and go home and brag about this legislation because it doesn't do what we would even want it to do. It's not a ban.

I'm going to have to go back to my constituents and say, to be honest what I did was, yeah, I told the federal government figure out an alternative. Yeah, it's really bad for you. It causes cancer. It could cause all sorts of deformities with fetus development. I mean, that's pretty horrific. But you're going to keep ingesting it and you're going to keep getting it for the next four years.

What is that? So to me it just doesn't make any sense. So how do I go back to the community and say that this Bill is a good piece of legislation, and anybody that really reads this, I mean, you know certainly somebody who feels important about this and I know I'll get the phone call from somebody that says, why did you vote no against this Bill?

And I'll say, I'll have to explain it to them. But you know, if I explain it to them, I've got to believe common senses is going to prevail, because it prevails out there, outside of that dome, outside of this dome a lot better than under here. Under here sometimes I don't know where common sense goes.

But when I go home and I explain to these people, yes, I hear that studies show, and if they have that data and they show it to me that thermal paper causes cancer, and why did you vote against the Bill, I'll say, well, we didn't ban it. We left it in the commercial stream for the next four years. So that doesn't make me feel real good.

So how do I tell that person I just protected you from cancer. I protected you from cancer four years from now. That's crazy.

If this in fact is that bad, we should be banning it July 1. And again, then the quandary is, now you go home to businesses and the business community is going to come up to me and if I vote for this legislation they're going to say, why the heck did you ban this? I'm not going to be able to operate my business, and you're going to give them a wink and pat them on the back and say, no, no, no, don't worry. We

didn't ban it. It's okay because you could still use it for four years and by that time, somebody's going to come up with an alternative.

But here's the dilemma. This Bill leaves the alternative up to somebody else and we don't get to scrutinize it.

We hear at times that the private market is so bad, but we're going to leave such an important health issue up to the private market, who may produce some sort of alternative and maybe eight years from now, guess what? We'll have a piece of legislation that will ban that alternative, but it may not be an outright ban. We'll ban the alternative four years from now so the business community could figure out another alternative and the people that are lobbying to ban that alternative product can be satisfied that maybe down the road that product will be banned and they'll be safe.

And this cycle doesn't end, and it's frustrating.

It's the last day of Session, I would have hoped that we would have had substantive pieces of legislation that were sharp and clear that addressed important public policy issues that we need to be addressing, that are important to the communities.

But what we have here and what we're faced with is a quandary. It's a quandary that I can't get myself out of because if I believed that thermal paper is a carcinogen and needs to be banned, I would want this legislation to be written in a way that it's an outright ban. But we didn't do that here. We ban it four years from now.

And if I am convinced that this thermal paper is safe for everybody, then I would want to oppose this legislation because it's an outright ban. But it's not an outright ban. It's punting it down the road four years from now.

So it's interesting the way it's written. I guess we could vote green or red in either case and we've done absolutely nothing in the short term.

In this Session we've accomplished nothing when it relates to this particular Bill. And it's unfortunate, because there are so many other bills that are on our calendar that are addressing very significant issues, and I feel like I am standing here talking about a Bill that does nothing.

It doesn't make any sense. It is completely devoid of common sense. I would think it would make a

lot of sense for our Committee to have studied this issue and to stop punting the ball.

We've had other issues that have come before us and we've heard it time and again at times when we're concerned with the private sector and their ability sometimes to function in a way that we think they need to function.

We question their motives and we question what effects the actions of an employer would have in Connecticut's environment, and at times the State of Connecticut needs to step in and fix situations.

Like in this situation, you could argue the State of Connecticut would need to step in to address a ban, because at times the modus of the private sector need to be adjusted, might need to be regulated by government and I understand that, and so I can appreciate the underlying philosophy especially when it comes to our environmental laws, our public health laws that I think that this Bill clearly addresses.

But I get concerned on one hand that what we're now doing is leaving this issue, which seems like it needs regulation because if thermal paper is a carcinogen and it needs to be removed from our stream, then absolutely government needs to step in, and it

would be appropriate for government to provide redress and to address it.

But what we've done under the four corners of this document is we're leaving the alternative to somebody else. And I guess I know, you know, in line 11 that it's the United State Environmental Protection Agency that is going to be the one to identify a safe and commercially available alternative, but I'm not sure who is the one that's actually going to be expending the money to come up with that alternative.

And if I might, Mr.. Speaker, a question to the proponent of the Amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have language in line 11 that says that the United States EPA is the one that would identify a safe commercially available alternative.

What does the language identify mean? Are they the body that's actually going to be coming up with that alternative? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the EPA has directed a task force of scientists and toxicologists to work with the industry and to find a safe alternative. They've been at that task for quite a while as I understand it and they believe that they're going to have success by the end of 2011, and I think that's also why we had the 2013 date to allow the new product to be acquired, implemented, after using up the existing supply.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So in the relationship that EPA is having right now, they're actually engaged in the private sector, so in addition to them working with scientists, there are other companies that are out there coming up with some sort of alternative?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, that's correct, as I understand it.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the good Representative's answers. I don't have any further questions on this Bill. That's definitely for sure now.

And just to wrap up. I'm very concerned about this legislation. We send the wrong message. We accomplish nothing. I guess we've accomplished the ability to be able to go back into the community and say one thing to one group and say another to another group.

So when the business community gets upset that there is a ban on their product we could tell them four years from now that ban's coming and don't worry, there will be some other alternative.

To the people that want to see this ban we could say, yep, we've banned the product. They won't even know the difference. And they probably, you know, wouldn't know the difference anyway because they throw these receipts in the garbage.

It's a -- this is a real disappointing product. Frankly, I think that we should have not put up this kind of quandary. It's very frustrating to me. It sends the wrong message to the state of Connecticut.

There are the types of extreme proposals right now -- not in the philosophy because the philosophy certainly is not extreme. But the way this bill is written is extreme. And these are the extreme philosophies that give the General Assembly a bad reputation. And I stand in strong opposition to this Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Deputy Speaker Altobello in the Chair.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio of the 71st, you have the floor, sir.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And good afternoon to you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Good afternoon, sir.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

A question through you to the proponent of the

amendment, please?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, sir.

Representative Reed, was this -- I think the question was asked, but was this given a public hearing? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it was.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

In that public hearing was there any discussion on an alternative type of paper that could be used, like if this were to be done today? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Not -- not that I recall although there is a BPS alternative which is

now been discovered to also be problematic. So we're still in search of a totally safe replacement. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

And through you, Mr. Speaker. If there is no alternative that's available today why the rush? If the legislation says July 1st, 2015, why are we doing this today? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. What we have been listening to the voices of the federal EPA Task Force that is working with the industry. And they feel confident that they are going to able to come up with a safe alternative to replace this.

As -- as -- as the good gentleman recalls from our discussions of BPA during 2008 when we became a leader in the country, BPA is also -- mimics estrogen and that feeds certain cancers including breast cancer. It's been discovered that the receipt paper

does the same and so it's very concerning and we need to stay away from that. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How much exposure -- I mean, you know, as the good Representative before me, Representative Candelora brought out, you know, receipts aren't that big. Many times people are throwing them away. So how much exposure is at risk? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, it's on half of the receipts that -- actually 60 percent of the receipts that we receive have this. So at least half of the receipts in a regular day would be exposing us. And it's with all of these things, you know, the recent blow up of the nuclear plant in Japan, people are always discovering new levels of exposure that make us vulnerable and they keep being reduced smaller and smaller. BPA is one of the toxins that falls into that category. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How about other states, through you, Mr. Speaker, is there a ban in any other state as we speak today? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, as the good Representative knows, Connecticut is a leader, but several other states are also exploring this, and again, they have the same issue we do. They need a safe substitute so they are also working with the special team from the federal EPA that is looking for a safe substitute. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does -- do you know if -- why the federal government doesn't put a ban on this? Why is it left up to individual states if it's very -- if it's so harmful to the public? Why isn't there a national ban? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I think we can ask that about a lot of things, as the good Representative knows. And sometimes, certain states, like Connecticut -- we like to consider ourselves out in front on medical issues -- has to take a lead, and I think we are proud to do so.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

One other question, Mr. Speaker, through you. Do you know of any companies in Connecticut that manufacture receipt paper? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. No, I do not, sir. I have to say no, I personally do not. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

And Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

In your opinion, through you, Mr. Speaker, if we do ban this we're pretty much -- we're -- we would be the only state to do so. And if an alternative isn't found by July 2015, how would we service -- as Representative Candelora pointed out, the business community then? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I think we're pretty confident that by putting pressure on the manufacturers of paper they're going to come up with a safe alternative. We can always revisit this issue if one is not available.

And as we all know, technology is changing so quickly, we may not even be using the same kind of receipt production equipment that we do now. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative D'Amelio.

REP. D'AMELIO (71st):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the gentlelady for her responses.

And that's my problem with this, folks. As Representative Candelora pointed out, we're banning something today that's not going to happen in 2015. And we don't even have an alternative to the -- to the -- cash receipts as we speak today. And if we don't find an alternative, well, we might have to revisit this legislation and repeal it. I mean, it makes no common sense.

You know, ladies and gentlemen, I don't know if you remember, but years ago we used to have cash registers and those systems used to work with a ribbon, the ribbon system. You know, you had paper and you had a ribbon and you used to print on the paper. And when the ink ran out of the ribbon, you tossed it out. And then several years ago they replaced all that with thermal paper. And as your equipment worn out (sic) you made the change because it was a lot cheaper to buy the paper.

And now today, I can't think of any business that really doesn't operate with thermal paper. And what are we saying? I mean, we're saying we're going to ban the use of a cash register receipt, cash register paper and 2015 comes, well, if there's no alternative,

"Well, hey, guys, you're not going to get a receipt," I guess.

And not to mention the expense that this is going to put on every business out there, not just the superstore but all the Mom-and-Pops that are operating out there. The majority of those equipment operate with thermal paper. Are we saying to them, "Well, there's no alternative, we're going to have to go back to the ribbon and paper, you're going to have to change your equipment." It makes no sense at all. And if this was a huge health problem as we speak today, then it shouldn't be banned in 2015 as this legislation says, and it should be banned nationwide.

Look at the disadvantage we're putting Connecticut business to. We don't know if we have any company in Connecticut that actually produces cash register paper. So we might be the only state that bans it and what are we going to do? We're going to have to talk to one company to try and maybe tailor make paper to conform to our laws. It makes no sense at all.

I just hope everybody thinks about what they're doing here. I mean -- it's -- you know -- it's a lot

of applause by -- I just can't understand the common sense that's going into this.

There's no need to do this today. We should wait to see if there's an alternative source out there. We should look to the federal government -- if this is a huge health problem, you know, let's have a federal ban so that every state is on a level playing field when it comes to this. Because if you're helping me in Connecticut and I go to New York and Massachusetts to shop and I'm getting thermal paper receipts, I'm not being protected.

I mean, let's think about this, folks. What we're doing to business, what we're doing to the general public.. I mean, it doesn't make any sense. And I urge this Chamber to oppose this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative D'Amelio.

Representative Piscopo of the 76th district, you have the floor, sir.

REP. PISCOPO (76th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I remember -- I've been on the Environment Committee for awhile. I remember this bill last term and it was basically a

ban on bisphenol A. And what it would do was pretty much outlaw millions of cans we have now in our grocery stores. During the course of that session that bill was -- came in front of the Chamber. It went back and it was amended down to just include a few items and passed.

So we've got to be real careful what we do here. And I agree with the previous speakers that this does go backwards. A study on bisphenol A might be a prudent move. Sometimes when there's sci -- a scientific study or some science introduced, it creates a -- I don't want to use the word hysteria, but it creates unintended consequences with some legislation and policy makers.

The proponent probably referred to a study -- it was probably a study that was published in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. It was a study out of Chicago and that really was the crux of all this back -- of all this policy on bisphenol A, and efforts to ban it and so forth.

That study has had -- has gone under a lot of scientific review since then. There was a German science -- German Society of Toxicology study pretty much debunking that whole -- the whole science behind

that study. It's a prestigious international journal and it said that the "BPA is harmful" thesis has gained (inaudible) acceptance among scientists, but there is no regulatory panel in the world that could recommend restricting this. It also made the conclusion that the endocrine disruptor hypothesis is greatly losing favor in the international scientific community.

So maybe there is time -- maybe -- maybe the time is due for further review on this. Our own -- well, EPA was mentioned. They had gone through one review and found no reason to curtail the use of bisphenol A. Now they're in another review of it.

The FDA, the Food and Drug Administration, our federal government's Food and Drug Administration is on its second review of bisphenol in two years. It -- it -- just reiterates that there is no proven harm to children or adults with this substance. And that's -- and that was done with a study of water bottles and so forth that's actually ingested. There was no harm to children or adults, two FDA studies.

The European Food Authority. These guys are strict. I mean they ban everything. They have a whole different standard than the United States. The

United States has what we call a hazard base where we go through scientific tests and then -- and try and determine that it is indeed toxic and then we will ban it. The European Food Safety Authority will have, if it's a haz -- if it's a perceived hazard they will ban a product without even -- with very minimal study. What they did was they -- they reviewed more than 800 scientific journals on this and they rejected the contention that BPA causes human neuron -- neu -- neurological damage. Excuse me, I didn't get much sleep last night, Mr. Speaker, excuse me there -- neurological damage. And they -- they -- they reviewed over 800 scientific studies.

One of the proponents of the original study in Chicago that was published in the Milwaukee Sentinel, Richard Sharpe, and he was -- he was director of the Center for Reproductive Biology. He was one of the main proponents of this. He has since debunked his own review. In an article in Toxicology Science, he changed his mind. A scientist -- as a scientist, he says, "We like our ideas and hypotheses to be proven correct. Yet, there is equal merit to being proven wrong. That's what science is. We ask questions, we're proven correct and we're proven wrong."

I wish we did have a bit better understanding of the science. A study would have been better than an initial ban.

I agreed not to go too long on this, Mr. Speaker, and I want to honor that agreement so I will end my remarks and thank you very much for your time, Mr. Speaker, and the Chamber's time.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you for the lesson on endocrinology, Representative Piscopo.

Further on this Senate "A," Representative Rowe of the 123. You have the floor, sir.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you and good evening, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Good evening, sir.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

I guess the previous few speakers have taken a little starch out of my sails, but I kind of like this bill. And I would rise in support.

Nevertheless, I have a couple questions of the gentlelady, if I could.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

You may, sir. Please proceed.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. And if we were to back up a bit, it seems that some of the difficulties with it are based upon a perceived lack of consensus that BPA found in this thermal paper is, in fact, dangerous. And I read through some of the testimony, but can the gentlelady talk about the basis -- some of the basis for the health challenges that BPA may pose? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, there have been many peer review studies that indicate that the absorption of BPA as an endocrine disrupter is very dangerous to developing life among other things. It feeds -- it can feed -- because it does mimic estrogen -- breast cancer. It's been linked to prostate cancer, some developmental issues in terms of behavior development, ADHD and that kind of thing.

So now that we've discovered that it can be transmitted through receipt paper, because it appears on receipt paper in an unbonded (sic) form, it can rub off. And it's very difficult to wash off your hands.

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So you have it on your hands and you transmit it to your children, you stroke your child's face, you transmit it to your child, you shove receipts in your pocketbook, you have your children's toys or some snacks and on and on it goes.

So the thinking is, the concern is that when trying to protect public safety. And also, the good Representative knows, trying to protect, quite frankly, dollars and sense markets around the world as other markets, western Europe, the nation of Canada has banned BPA altogether. They've called it a toxin and they're going to go product by product to ban it. It's sort of giving industry a wakeup call that there ought to be a better way to create receipts without dangerous substances. Through you -- sorry for the long answer. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

No, I thought that was a very good answer, thank you, and thorough. And talking about what we do with credit card receipts, would the gentlelady suggest that when I stop off now as I do in Wallingford at BJ's to get my gas as I come to and fro here and throw

the receipt in my shirt pocket, that I ought not do that anymore? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It's -- it's really discussed in terms of skin contact. But there is concern that it also passes through breathing materials. And so, word to the wise, I might put it elsewhere. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. I will.

And I was interested to learn as you said that the nation of Canada has banned this in its entirety, and we've taken up the BPA with some of the baby products in past years. Am I to understand, through you, Mr. Speaker, that the country of Canada has, in fact, had a blanket elimination or ban of BPA? And if so, can you give examples of what some other products which contain it might be?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I should have said that they have put it on their toxic substance list. So for starters they've banned it from children's products. And they are now going to be able to ban it product by product without going through any kind of legislative process.

So that's considered an incredible leap forward and a wakeup call to businesses that manufacture products that contain BPA that the world is paying attention. And that, perhaps, because it's a good thing to do for public health, and so a good thing to do for business they should think about replacements. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. I appreciate that response.

And when we talk about other products that I guess we ought to be most concerned with the baby products or the children products. Am I correct that we've addressed the issue with regard to baby bottles, but is -- is that the only child or baby specific item that we have acted upon as of now? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. No, we have also banned it from formula containers, from the linings of formula containers, and I believe other children's food containers. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. Are there other child food items or products that we ought to be looking at now instead of the thermal paper? In other words, might our efforts be better focused on -- on the child specific items rather than this thermal paper? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I believe any products that come in contact with children that have unbonded (sic) BPA probably should be addressed.

And there was a study done with students, actually, at Harvard, where they took athletes and they had them drink water out of non-BPA containing

bottles for, I think, like six weeks to get all of the BPA out of their systems and then they gave them plastic bottles that had BPA. And within just a few days they had huge amounts of BPA coursing through their systems.

So when you look at things like that and how quickly it enters your system and leaches out of products -- I believe Representative Candelora said that only heat activated products -- yes, that does quicken the process. But in reality through regular cool room temperature, air temperature products as well.

So just sort of taking a look going forward, anything that comes in contact with children where it can be rubbed off or ingested or leached into their systems probably would be a good target to examine. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. And I guess I'd like to see us move in that direction if -- if possible. Probably not this session given that there's five hours and 48 minutes left-is.

As for the -- well, let me ask you about the fiscal note. And I thought I looked at it before and maybe it changed because we had that -- the strike all, but -- but could the gentlelady talk about the fiscal note, please? I assume there's going to be an impact with the Department of Environmental Protection and their enforcement of this. But can we talk about what the fiscal note of Amendment "A" is? Through you, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. No immediate fiscal impact, but after, I believe, 2014, I think it's -- it -- it's $60,000, which is the cost of an inspector or I guess they would need at least a quarter of his time to begin to inspect and make sure that BPA is not being utilized. And the cost of having an individual really ride herd over that is the money that we're talking about. But I believe that's 2014. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you and I know this is a year or two off, but is it expected that this would be within available appropriations or is this going to require -- I know it's -- or I understand it's a new position, I think. But are we going to need someone with a lot of scientific or BPA-specific knowledge to hire? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I know our Department of Public Health has toxicologists on staff already. And since we're a General Assembly that uses common sense, I would expect that we have some expertise on board already that could be applied to the process. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. Yes, I think we do use common sense from time to time up here. And I don't have an amendment on the common sense issue, not on this bill anyway.

In the testimony that I looked at there was this -- and I think we created it a couple years ago. But is the gentlelady familiar with the -- I think it's call the Chemical Innovations Institute, which is run out of UConn? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. And with the -- the debate that's gone on that's talked about -- well, maybe we ought to have more studies or have more information available -- were there any discussions that this might be within the purview of that Chemical Innovations Institute?

And in fact, this is a conversation I had with Representative Thompson earlier, that this might be an avenue to explore and to gain the expertise through the Chemical Innovations Institute of the federal Department of Environmental Protection. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, indeed. And when we created the Chemical Innovations Institute, as the good Representative knows -- and I was a big supporter of that as well, it was to make it a safe place for chemical companies and other companies to go to find safe substitutes for the products. To feel that they -- that proprietary information could be utilized, that they could use the scientific talent and really explore new ways to make the products without toxic ingredients. And we want to preserve that intact and really utilize it to the benefit of moving forward for the public health, and also for good business. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. And that's -- that's good to hear and I'm glad that the gentlelady is on board with that. But has anything been done yet to that end? In other words, it seems to me that this is a natural fit and that the wheels ought to be in motion already or soon be moving. And through you, have we done anything yet or are we in -- are we just hoping to?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The Chemical Innovations Institute is endeavoring to fire itself up and to -- to aggregate the kinds of funding it's going to need to really function as a fully functional entity and that's happening now. You're absolutely right. This would be a good first thing to put on top of the To Do list and I think we ought to encourage that happening ASAP. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. I would -- I'm glad to hear that, and to the extent that a member of the minority party can help in that regard, I'm happy to do so. Because id o think -- not just in this area, but in other areas, this institute can be a good liaison and open up some doors and some information exists, but perhaps we're not accessing at this time.

And if we can talk a little bit about the alternatives. And I believe the gentlelady had indicated that there really isn't any substitute or at

least a safe substitute as of yet. However, there is BA -- BPT? BPS? Is my understanding correct, therefore, that there -- there is BPA and BPS -- BPS is hopefully a substitute for BPA, but we're finding that there's difficulties with BPS and potential health effects as well? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they're discovering that it also -- it also -- here's a word that I love, estrogenic -- BPS, which was not known initially.

And when they began to really look into it, it also had some of the problems that BPA has. You know, another sort of interesting thing that happens when one begins to look more closely at one's surroundings and one's environment, the team that has been assembled at EPA feels that they are on the brink of finding something through working with companies that will be totally safe. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. So I guess we're back to what you had said initially, a couple of hours ago, that a substitute, safe substitute is going to be need to be found. And there's been some discussion that this could put business in a challenging position, particularly if Connecticut is a lone ranger in this area.

So at the risk of asking a compound question -- well, firstly is -- am I correct that no other state in the union has yet banned BPA on thermal paper?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. You are correct and the issue is the same one. We have no safe substitute yet.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

And I -- thank you. And I think you mentioned earlier on that you are leaving open, even though it's not necessarily in the bill, an option to revisit this in the future if, two years down the road there's still no safe substitute, we could simply extend out

that deadline, whether it's a year or two to give -- to give good old fashioned American ingenuity to solve the problem. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Because necessity is the mother of invention. And I would think that we'd be able to solve the problem. Recognizing that while I can spell BPA, I don't know much about the nuances. But I do believe it's a product that is dangerous. And in speaking about that briefly -- and I'm -- I am winding down.

I know it's been stated a couple of times that some of the untoward or adverse health effects are to the unborn, unborn children. Am I correct? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, and on a personal

note, I have a niece who's just been hired from MIT, a PhD in toxicology and fetal development who's been hired by the University of North Carolina to run a study in their school of Public Health dealing with the developing fetus in terms of all the toxic impacts, but BPA being among them. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

Thank you. And through the specific question on the unborn though, it poses -- and I think we heard this when we talked about the baby products in past years, but it poses potential challenges to the fetal development of unborn children, correct? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes, it does. And thank you for the question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Rowe.

REP. ROWE (123rd):

You're welcome. And -- well, since I -- I would opine that since -- since there's many of us that know that science confirms that human life begins at conception, this BPA is -- and I don't have an amendment. They're making me draft one, actually. How much time do we have?

But since we know that human life begins at conception this BPA is impacting the development of the human life. And that in and of itself is a reason to do this. I'm very pleased that we're taking this step.

I do hope that the gentlelady can follow up with future interactions with the Chemical Innovations Institute and let that bear some fruit and open up the science to us. Because I think -- I think in future years, not just generations, but as soon as future years, we can look back on this and say that Connecticut was, happily, ahead of the curve on this. And that others will join us and will not need to go through multiple hours of debate to pass this.

So I appreciate all the hard work that the gentlelady has put in and the committee has put in, and the indulgence of the Chair. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative.

Representative Lawrence Miller of the 122nd, you have the floor, sir.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I'll be quick. To the gentlelady from Branford, a couple of questions, through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Did we attribute any deaths in the state of Connecticut to people who have handled this thermal imaging paper?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Probably not absolutely, but obviously, we understand that -- and all of us that have experienced some interesting and uninvited illnesses now that we're never quite sure what caused them, how they arrived in our systems, what kinds of cocktails we've ingested. And so, no, but the jury's still out. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And again, through you, if we have 5,000 gas stations in the state of Connecticut and each gas station has six pumps, that's 30,000 machines that have to be adjusted, modified to handle an alternative type of paper. Will we be reimbursing any of these gas station owners for the expense of changing over to a non (inaudible) type of paper?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm guessing not. It's certainly not talked about in the bill. But I would suggest hit the "I don't need a receipt" button and we could eliminate the problem. Thank you, through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Thank you and again, through you, when I go to the supermarket and I get a receipt from the cash

register, is that piece of paper that I'm getting have any BP in it -- BPA?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if that is all thermal receipt paper. It is the thermal cash receipt paper. So I have to say I can't -- I can't answer that but I can research that for you. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

And through you, Mr. Speaker, have we identified all the paper that may be bad for our citizens to be handling? For instance, fax paper, would that be a problem?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to the good Representative, I believe fax paper is a different type of paper. And certainly back in the day we had

thermal fax paper. And I believe we no longer use that. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Thank you. So we don't know how many products that are out there in the state of Connecticut that we should be looking at to make sure that our citizens won't be exposed to something that may harm them or give them some kind of an illness that we don't know about? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I think that the statistic is that 60 percent of the receipt paper manufactured does contain BPA. So I guess one could take those numbers and sort of deduce what your likelihood -- put an equation together to deduce your likelihood of running into it. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Miller.

REP. L. MILLER (122nd):

Thank you for those answers. I think I'll finish up. And I want to thank the gentlelady from Branford for her answers. And thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative Miller.

Representative O'Neill of the 69th, you have the floor, sir.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, following up on the last speaker's set of questions, but coming at it from a slightly different angle. I believe the statement was just made that 60 percent of the receipt paper contains BPA. So through you, Mr. Speaker, I guess I'll start with that, which I think we know the answer, but just to verify.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, and the statistics -- the studies that we're looking at say that 60 percent of the receipt paper contains BPA.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

And in using the phrase "receipt paper," is that meant to be equivalent to the definition that's in Section 1, thermal receipt paper or cash register receipt paper? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Okay. Now what that says to me -- and this is not a complex math problem -- is that if 60 percent of the receipt paper, thermal receipt paper and cash register receipt paper is -- contains BPA, that means that 40 percent of the receipt paper does not contain BPA. Would the proponent of the amendment agree to that? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I could agree to that I believe. But of course we have BPS that's also an ingredient and I'm not quite sure what the percentage

would be of those that would contain that. But I'm assuming since there is no safe substitute, we're talking about 60 percent BPA and 40 percent BPS. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Well, then I guess I have to ask, what is BPS? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. BPS is another three letter chemical, short definition of a chemical that has a property in it that is what they call estrogenic. So it also mimics estrogen and that's one of the issues that we're really concerned about in BPA. While they have not totally identified BPS as being as toxic or aggressive as BPA in the studies that have been done, there is concern that it might be. And they don't want to use that as the safe substitute if indeed it becomes problematic as well. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

And -- okay, so if we do go ahead and ban BPA and people who had paper that was impregnated, I guess is the right phrase, impregnated with the BPA that will still leave us with the 40 percent of the paper that's being used as this type that's contaminated or coated with another chemical that's almost as bad as the BPA. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. No, the actual goal here is to find a safe substitute. And the -- the federal EPA has a task force that's working on that as we speak. They're working with industry, and they believe that they will have a safe substitute by the end of 2011 and that that can be implemented and -- with the -- the whole BPA, BPA problem will go away. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So is the notion that the -- all of the equipment that is currently being utilized for things like receipts in grocery stores and gas stations and so forth, that this safe substitute chemical is going to be applied to paper that can be used in the existing equipment that's available throughout the state of Connecticut and throughout the country? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as I understand it. But of course, as we all know, technology advances by leaps and bounds and we may not be using anything that even resembles what we're using now by 2015. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. But I guess where I was going with this is that much of the discussion has revolved around the notion that every store that has cash register receipt that is produced using this kind of -- or using thermal paper that has either

apparently either BPA or BPS is a source of this problem, and that the solution to the problem is to find a different kind of paper that can be used in those cash registers.

If you can't find something that can be used in those cash registers then you have to replace the equipment, which causes everybody who is using that equipment considerable expense if they have to replace it all with something else that doesn't use that kind of paper or something of that sort.

So I guess the question is, is the intent of the bill -- and the objective here, to cause everyone to replace all their cash registers with new machines that use a different kind of paper or to leave the cash registers pretty much in place and find a new kind of -- a different version of the same paper that doesn't contain the BPA or presumably the BPS? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that question. It's -- the end game and the goal is to use drop in technologies. So what's being developed now

would totally replace, easily, in the current machines and that is by design where they are going. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Okay. Well, I guess I was hoping that the answer was going to be that they were just going to replace the rolls of BPA laden paper with rolls of XYZ laden paper, which is harmless. But it does sound like then that the -- the point that was raised by the previous speaker, which is that the consequence of this bill is that everybody, every retailer in the state of Connecticut -- because both BPA and BPS between the two of them they'd have 100 percent of the market papers are bad and the machinery that uses them is going to have to be replaced. So -- am I misunderstanding the answer to the question? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for not being clear. What I meant to say is that they will

not replace the machines. The product that they're working on will just substitute for the current rolls that they're using in those machines. And they can keep the current machines. And drop in technology is the term that's utilized to mean that it will go right into the machines as we know them and the problem will go away. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, that's encouraging because I -- I -- I -- I knew that this is a good concept and I -- I've been concerned because to tell everybody that within a year or two they're going to have to replace all their cash registers and other similar equipment is a substantial expense, especially if somebody just bought brand new ones last month or six months ago. And my impression is when I go to the grocery store, I see the same cash registers year after year. So it's not something that they typically will replace very frequently.

The -- I do have a couple more questions. One being, it says that in -- I guess, subsection B that no person shall manufacture, sell or offer for sale or

distribute in this state any thermal receipt paper and so forth that contains bisphenol A.

It doesn't say that you can't actually use it. So that if I had a cash register that used this kind of stuff, could I go to another state where BPA paper is not banned, buy ten rolls of it for my cash registers every week or so, and just continue using BPA paper under the terms of this act and still be in compliance with the law? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the intent of the legislation is to keep you from using it. But we have set the date out enough that people can use up their existing inventories and then use a safe substitute.

I don't think the intent of the legislation is to punish people who really feel they need to go to Wyoming to buy BPA receipt paper. But that it will filter through the system by encouraging manufacturers not to manufacture or distribute it to people who are working in the state of Connecticut. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe there was a colloquy -- and the reason why it's become somewhat important, there was an earlier colloquy that indicated that no other state has banned BPA laden paper. Am I correct in that? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

One of the things that, you know, in my years here in the Legislature that we have discovered and certainly as well in the Regulations Review Committee is that we can -- we as a pa -- percentage of the world or rather the national market typically represent one or two percent. And while no manufacturer wants to lose even one percent of its potential market, to retool an entire industry to

satisfy Connecticut's requirements is something that we run into as an issue. Can we as a tail, in effect, wag the national dog? And we usually come up with the answer to that, no. Most people would just as soon not, if they have to choose between the two of those, they'll just give up on the Connecticut market. And so I guess -- and I don't know if Wyoming is the main source of BPA paper, but I was assuming that someone could travel to New York, Massachusetts or Rhode Island and find this paper for sale in some company that produces paper or distributes it in those areas.

So I think that, you know, given the fact that they could buy the paper in some other state and bring it here, unless some of the other states start to outlaw it, that we're going to find people probably continuing to use the BPA paper.

It also says in subsection C -- and I do have another question for the proponent of the amendment, that the Commissioner -- that this will be enforced within available appropriations by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

And I guess the first question I have is what is the Commissioner supposed to do by way of enforcement? Because it does not appear to me that this language

contains any penalties, fines or anything along those lines. So I guess the question is what is the Commissioner of Consumer Protection supposed to do to enforce this if it becomes the law? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that's at the Commissioner's discretion and as I understand the legislation, it's not really a huge concern that people are going to fight replacing BPA paper if there is a safe substitute available. So it's -- you know, getting the word out, being proactive, that kind of thing. As I said, the intent of the legislation is not to punish retailers. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that answer and I'm sure the retailers are going to be happy to hear that. But I'm -- I guess, wondering what the Commissioner of Consumer Protection is supposed to do? I guess if I were the Commissioner of Consumer

Protection and I was looking at this and I'd be asking myself, "Well, what am I supposed to do by way of enforcement?" Because, as I said, it doesn't seem that you can impose a fine on anybody. It doesn't seem to even provide for the Consumer Protection Commissioner to seize the paper if they discover it being utilized after the date that it's banned, after October 1 of 2013. So I'm not sure what that means. And considering that the Consumer Protection Commissioner is the one that's being expected to enforce this law, I'm just wondering what it is that he is supposed to do, given that we haven't, in this amendment before us, provided any tools for the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to use to actually enforce this provision.

I do have, I guess, one more question. Does the proponent of the amendment know whether the paper that we use to print lottery tickets in the state of Connecticut is a BPA laden type of paper? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I have to say I honestly do not know that. I hope not. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because the lottery tickets seem to be produced from, you know, what look like cash registers. And they're small slips of paper and so I was just wondering if possibly that paper also was a BPA laden paper.

I guess I would just conclude by saying that I think that it -- this is a good concept. I like the idea of trying to get rid of the paper and it seems to hinge greatly on the safe substitute becoming available in a fairly short time.

And while necessity is sometimes the mother of invention, I think that we are taking a little bit of a risk with this and it's the kind of thing which -- it's good that it has a significantly delayed effective date. But we're going to have to confront the possibility that a safe alternative does not become available that can be used with this, I guess, drop in technology is the term of art that was used.

And if that doesn't happen then we're going to have to be back here dealing with this. And I'm not exactly sure how we deal with it, having in effect, raised everyone's awareness of this concern about the effects of BPA and it becoming available to people. And maybe the solution suggested, which I frequently follow, of not asking for or accepting receipts in many cases, is the alternative that people can choose to use to minimize their contact with the receipt paper that contains this.

And along those lines, is there a quick and easy way for someone to know -- this would b a question I guess -- for someone to know whether the receipt paper that they are being offered is BPA laden or not? Is it obvious to the eye which kinds of paper or a certain size of paper, that if it's bigger than that or smaller than that, it's not going to be BPA laden? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It is thermal cash register paper and I think we did our hundred percent of assuming that thermal paper is either BPA 60

percent or 40 percent BPS. So I guess if we're assuming, it's just deductive reasoning and empirical data that a hundred percent of the thermal receipt paper is probably something to be concerned about. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, but I guess I'm just wondering, is it possible to -- when you see this piece of paper to look at it and know whether it's not thermal?

To put it another way, is every cash register receipt that we get in the state of Connecticut, gas station receipt, that sort of thing, is every one of them produced by thermal technology or is there other technology besides the thermal? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I can't answer that in detail, but I think, you know, one of the issues here is that it's not possible, really, to tell. And that

is why it is a public health concern. If you could easily identify it and avoid it, you could sort of make those choices yourself. But we're trying to help eliminate this as a public health concern by eliminating the problem entirely. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative O'Neill.

REP O'NEILL (69th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I think that -- if I could just drift back -- and when we go forward and as we're looking at this going forward, that the question that I raised before about the Connecticut lottery paper.

If it indeed turns out to be thermal paper and there is no safe substitute, then obviously that's one kind of piece of paper that everybody who is buying the lottery tickets and paying the money into the state of Connecticut is not going to want to refuse to accept. And so that could create a fairly serious problem and a potentially significant financial problem for the state of the Connecticut if people stop buying lottery tickets because they're afraid of the paper that it's printed on.

And so I think that it would be important for us to find out the answer to that question to be sure that Connecticut lottery tickets are not in fact printed on this type of paper, which looks a lot like a cash register receipt, at least to my eyes. And because if it is, then this isn't something which is -- perhaps a good consumer protection health issue, it also becomes a major financial issue since a lot of money that goes into the state coffers comes from the sale of these lottery tickets.

And that's something that I think we need to be concerned about. And I'm, I guess, a little concerned that we don't know the answer to that question. And apparently this issue was never raised during the course of the public hearing or any of the reports that were generated to be able to identify that answer so we would have it readily available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you very much, Representative O'Neill.

Representative Alberts of the 50th district, you have the floor to discuss Senate "A."

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, good evening. A few questions to the proponent of the amendment, if I may?

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I understand it then, just trying to put together the different pieces -- and I apologize in advance if I'm duplicative. About 60 percent of the receipt paper that we are using right now in the state has BPA and then approximately the 40 percent balance has BPS. Is that not correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. We are surmising that that is the case because we know that BPA is in 60 percent of the paper and we know that there is no safe substitute and that the other substitute is BPS. So we're just assuming that the other 40 percent has BPS in it. Through you, Mr. Speaker. But I can't say that definitively.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. But the amendment that's before us is only addressing the BPA. What we believe we're dealing with is a potentially hazardous situation with BPS but it hasn't been confirmed to be so, is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes, indeed. And that -- because BPS is also suspect, it's not been identified definitively as also toxic, but because it is suspect, that has created a challenge. So the search is for something that everyone can agree is totally safe. So that's why BPS is not going to be used as a substitute. And the hope is that the federal EPA team working with industry will find something that is fully safe. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I appreciate that response. And I share the goals of the proponent.

In line 5 of the amendment, we use the phrase "commercial entity." And I'm assuming this is defined as what we normally do in the state in terms of language, a profit or not for profit enterprise. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And then going a little further on line 7, "No person shall manufacture, sell, offer for sale or distribute in the state any thermal receipt paper," and it goes on from there. Would that -- it doesn't appear that we are using paper that is already in supply. Would using paper be allowed if it contained these materials? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. We talked about this a little while ago, about how proscriptive we want to

be. And the reality is that this legislation is not intended to be injurious to retailers. It is intended to give industry a heads up that they need to start producing receipt paper that does not contain toxic substances.

So you know, the idea is to start with commercial enterprises, retailers, but if, you know, if only good stuff is available, then we're assuming that everybody is going to use the safe product. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate that. I'm glad we will allow some latitude for that. Is there somewhere in the amendment before us where we cite how we would handle state operations?

For example, the state of Connecticut has certain retail operations and facilities that the state owns. It might be, for example, at Bradley Airport or any of the other airports that come under state control. As I read this, the language here, it seems to not be applicable for anything that is operated by the state. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The assumption is that the state will, of course, comply with a law that it has created to affect commercial retailers. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. But, I understand what the intent may be. I don't see that here on the paper. And I would ask for guidance in terms of which line will specifically cite state involvement in this. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The assumption is that the state will willingly comply. I don't believe that it's so proscriptive that it was felt that the, you know, the li -- the exact line item needed to dictate it, but it's an assumption. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So let's clarify the assumption then for purposes -- for legislative intent. In line five where the reference is made to commercial entity, then it would be the proponent's believe that this would include any state owned or operated facilities as well so that would include that applicability? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the gentlelady for her answer.

I think one more question as it relates to the fiscal note. There's reference here to the testing costs of $45,000 per year. And I understand this is an approximation based several years from now on what we may be looking at. Is any of this testing cost believed to be borne by the entity, the firm or the

company under investigation? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Actually, I believe that the amendment that we're talking about now does not go into that kind of detail and says within available appropriations. So I think the idea in Senate Amendment "A" is to allow the state to have the discretion to find the funds that are necessary. But it's not dictated in detail. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Right now as I'm looking at this amendment for -- as amended by Senate "A," the reference is that there would be additional testing costs of $45,000 per year. And the testing for BPA costs $150 per sample and an estimated 25 samples per month. But we're not anticipating that this would be a cost that would be born by whatever

individual might be under investigation? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Again, Senate "A" is LCO Number 8298 and I believe that Section D says that the provisions of this section may be enforced within available appropriations. I believe in an earlier iteration of this it was spelling it out more completely. And I assume that the legislative intent of that was that it would be a state expense in terms of studying and implementing the regulations. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, ma'am. Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do thank the gentlelady for her responses. I do look forward to supporting this or some other version of it as we proceed tonight. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Deputy Speaker Ryan in the Chair.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative.

Representative Hetherington of the 125th.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a couple of questions to the proponent. But first, I want to say I sincerely appreciate the lady's good nature and good humor in responding to a long -- a long litany of questions.

The material that we're talking about, the paper made with the use of bisphenols, is that -- are they -- is that paper made in the United States? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the United States is one of the places that it is made, yes.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I was interested because I -- I used to represent a paper company in a previous life and I -- I -- there

is hardly any paper that is made in America any more. That's interesting.

What -- through you, Mr. Speaker -- what is the -- what is the particular quality about paper that is made with this chemical that recommends it for use in receipts? Is it because it -- it copies well or the surface is hard and therefore it's not destroyed by the printing in the cash registers? What is there that makes this a useful ingredient? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. BPA is usually used to increase strength and flexibility. So that combination would obviously be ideal in the kinds of receipt paper that has to travel through the various mechanisms that shoot out receipts.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker -- and I touched -- this was touched on before. I was listening to the colloquy. I was looking at a receipt I have here. I decided to live dangerously and pick this thing up.

And this is apparently not in the coating, right, it's actually in the paper? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I believe it's in the coating and it's what the -- the scientists and paper experts called unbonded (sic). So it is easily rubbed off. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. And I apologize if this was formerly answered -- if this was previously answered, but is there an acceptable substitute that is in development or in production? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed, would you like to answer that again?

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to the wonderful gentleman, yes. There is right now in development a safe substitute that is being developed with a team

from the federal Environmental Protection Agency in concert with private industry.

Industry recognizes that this issue is something that can only grow and impact business and so they are working on developing a safe substitute as we speak. And the idea is that they're feeling optimistic that it will be available by the end of 2011. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, ma'am.

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you, that's interesting. Through you, Mr. Speaker, has there been any actual human studies of the impact of this substance? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington (sic).

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Growing numbers of studies are being conducted on all kinds of human exposure from developing fetuses to individuals with breast cancer, prostate cancer, developmental and behavioral abnormalities. And it's found that BPA

interacts with humankind in a way that is toxic.

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

I see. Thank you. And again, I apologize if I'm being redundant here. Has there actually been a documented case of a person who was injured, who developed a disease, a sickness through exposure to this? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Again, Representative, would you like to answer this again?

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I think as we all know, we're all subject -- and we see it all around us in ourselves and in our families. People become ill with strange illnesses, perfectly healthy people suddenly are afflicted with strange illnesses. And there is growing concern that we are creating in our environment a mixture of cocktails or chemical cocktails that are impacting us in ways we don't even know.

So long answer to your question. We can't specifically say this person died because of BPA. But we can look to the accumulation of toxic evidence to indicate that it's not a safe environment to be creating for our children or ourselves. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you. I -- I -- I understand those mysterious and re-occurring (sic) illnesses and I think it's, in my case, age. But anyway, it -- I -- I definitely relate to what the lady is saying and those things do happen.

In terms of disposing of this material, I suppose that most people, they walk out of the store, they throw it away. Is this -- material that involves this chemical, is it recyclable? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I -- you know -- I'm assuming that it -- it can -- it obviously can be thrown in the recycle bin. Whether the chemical

itself is totally eliminated, I -- you know, I could not answer. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you. That's really what I was wondering about. If you try to recycle it does the chemical survive and continue to pose a threat in some other form that the paper appears in. Through you, Mr. Speaker. I mean, that's a question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Reper -- re -- I can do this. Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I can't answer in scientific detail, but it's clear that we have a lot of substances -- properties that are found in computers and properties that are found in a lot of things that we utilize that need to be disposed of in a safe way so that they do not create exposure to our fellow human beings and other living things. So a long way, again, of saying I think it needs to be disposed of safely when it's removed from paper. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And just once again, or maybe it's more than once again, to get a scope on this. This is the same material that, for example, when you're in a restaurant and they bring your -- your receipt back to sign, your charge slip to sign, that's this material, is it? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It can be.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Are there -- through you, Mr. Speaker. In -- at the present time are there competing papers that satisfactorily perform the same function that do not contain this material? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. While I believe that all -- not all receipts are this thermal paper so obviously there are different processes that utilize different paper. But in terms of replacing this specific paper in the specific machines that utilize it, we need a safe substitute. And that's what's being looked for as we speak. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

So I guess we can assume that most everything that involves a printed receipt has a potential of being material with this dangerous substance. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. We're using the number 60 percent. That's the number that the scientists are telling us -- that 60 percent of the receipts that we receive has BPA in it.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Hetherington.

REP. HETHERINGTON (125th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And now I know why when I get through at the gas pump and when it says do you want a receipt I hit no, and I think I'll continue to do that.

Well, I appreciate very much the gracious lady's response to these questions. And I think this is a -- these types of bans always raise concern.

Certainly we always have to strive to identify things that put people at risk and to remove them from commerce when we determine that they are a rick. But there's always an uncertain element. There's always a question about how much impact we really -- really -- really are going to have on business on the ordinary course of life that people engage in every day. And so I think we have to be very sure that when we ban a substance that it is with good credentials in terms of research and is an established threat.

Some of the -- I was just reading recently - some of the -- one of the things that we might take a second look at if we were doing it today -- when we banned DDT completely. That had a negative impact on the efforts to exterminate malaria in some parts of the world. So one of the intended -- unintended

consequences was that we probably created health problems that went beyond our original concerns about the effects of DDT.

Anyway -- but I thank you and I thank the lady once again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative.

Will you remark further? Will you remark further on Senate Amendment "A"? Will you remark further?

Representative Coutu of the 47th.

REP. COUTU (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What a wonderful evening it is.

Mr. Speaker, I just have a few questions. I don't plan on speaking too long on this topic. I don't consider myself to be an expert in this area. And I want to thank the gentlelady for providing a lot of answers to a lot of questions. And I just want to clarify one which you may have already addressed. What agencies are saying that these substances have become extremely dangerous for children and others? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. There are university research centers that are studying this. There are children's advocacy groups that are studying this. There are -- the federal EPA is very concerned about this. Other countries are concerned about this. The nation of Canada has put BPA on its toxic substances list. Western Europe is looking at it in terms of they've already eliminated it in terms of baby products. So around the world and around the country there are enough studies and peer reviews to make people feel quite certain that something needs to be done about BPA. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Coutu.

REP. COUTU (47th):

Thank you. And what I would consider is the agency in America that is critical for analyzing concerns with substances and drugs is probably the Food and Drug Administration, FDA. What is their position relating to these substances? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I know the FDA is studying it. I don't know what their definitive decision is on that. But the FDA obviously has commercial responsibilities as well. We're talking about public health agencies and medical centers and the kinds of medical studies that involve seeing what developmental problems children have and looking at the substances around them that are contributing to this. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Coutu.

REP. COUTU (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I was doing some research I brought up the FDA's position relating to BPA and they recently stated that they've reversed their previous stance and are calling for more research and offering some suggestions on how parents in particular can help their children, make sure they stay safe. I'm not saying this for any other reason than it's obvious to me there's mixed opinions.

But in reality -- is when we're dealing with children and there is some concerns with a substance,

I always believe it's important to go on the side of prevention and caution. And we do as much research and gather as much intelligence as possible. So with that -- that was my only question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative.

Will you remark further on how -- on Schedule -- on Senate Amendment "A"? Will you remark further on Senate Amendment "A"?

If not, I will try your minds. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Carter of the 2nd.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative?

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to make a few comments on the bill as it is amended.

You know, originally when I saw this bill come out, I spent some time looking through the literature, what I could find, on BPA. And the thing that I really had a problem with is that there's a real lack of studies in humans. I know it came up earlier when we were talking about the amendment. Most of the studies I've seen with respect to this bill have been in vitro studies, which means in a test tube. There's a few in vivo studies which is we're talking about lab rats.

So to the best of my knowledge, I'd like to make a few questions, through you, Mr. Speaker, to the proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed, prepare yourself. Representative Carter.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we talked about earlier, I wanted to make sure I really understood. Do we have in our possession through OLR or anybody

that has in vivo studies in a human being with respect to BPA? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm afraid I didn't hear the -- what was the modifier on studies? The what kind of studies? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Carter.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm looking for a study in a live human being, not a rat or not a test tube.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. In human studies it's been discovered that human beings who come in contact with BPA, BPA containers, can have coursing through their blood streams large percentages of BPA. The -- we were told in the past that that doesn't matter, that leaching out of food containers into one's bloodstream is okay if substances is not harmful.

But it's becoming very clear from studies and peer reviews that it is harmful and having it coursing through one's bloodstream is not a good thing. So long answer to your question, there are live human beings with BPA coursing through their systems. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Carter.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Actually, right now I'm feeling very concerned that I might have large amounts of BPA coursing through my blood stream. Because in addition to gas receipts, we have BPA in bottles, dental fillings, eyeglass lenses, CDs, DVDs. You know, the concept of have BVD -- excuse me, BPA in plastics has been around for forty years.

So over the last forty years I don't think much has changed except now I feel almost like there's this growing movement against BPA, which most of it doesn't seem to be based on real science at this point from what I can see. And I'm not an expert by any means.

But what I do know is that BPA is an estrogen like substance in the bloodstream. And there's a lot of questions about whether or not it affects birth

weight or it affects weight in adolescents, but the bottom line is that the jury is still out. And at the same time, we go after these chemicals with a vengeance. And when I saw this come out, I jumped on board, too. I thought, "Oh my God, BPA, this is terrible."

So I think what we need to do is really take some time and look at this. I would suggest a working group. I would suggest something else other than doing something that will be a detriment to our businesses in our state. Because the bottom line is where does this witch hunt stop? Do we go after CDs next time? Are we going to go down to Borders and say, "You know, you can't have plastic bindings on your books"? So I really think we need to slow down on this thing and decide what we really want to do with respect to BPA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you.

I believe Representative Candelora wanted to speak.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of LCO 8714 and I ask that it be called and I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 8714, which would be marked House Amendment "A."

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 8714, House "A," offered by Representative Candelora.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this amendment strikes the underlying bill and replaces it with a task force and I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question is for adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A." Will you remark further?

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in the course of this discussion that we've heard we're certainly not clear what the effects of bisphenol A is in regards to receipt paper and how it's potentially ingested. In addition, we are not sure what alternatives are out there for our business industry in order to deal with this issue when they're faced with an outright ban.

So what this bill does actually, rather than putting the business -- excuse me. Rather than putting the burden on small business to figure out this problem, this amendment creates a task force and puts the burden appropriately on the state of Connecticut. It asks the Commissioner of Environment Protection and the Commissioner of Economic and community Development to take part in this task force with various different appointments.

These individuals would get together and study the issue of the health effects on thermal receipt paper or cash register receipt paper that contains BPA. And the task force would be required to report back to the General Assembly by February 15th, 2012, in order for us to be able to appropriately act on this matter. The report would be due well before any

contemplated ban that this Assembly would want to do. And I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The motion is for adoption. Will you remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"? Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have enormous respect for my good friend from North Branford, but I must ask my colleagues please to reject this amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative.

Representative Coutu of the 47th.

REP. COUTU (47th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I also was just looking at some more information on the Internet and what I recognize is there is studies that are published in Toxicology Sciences. It is sort of one of the industry journals that states -- related to toxicology -- and I think they have two studies which both question the BPA and how toxic it is.

And the more I look on the Internet there's definitely a lot of questions that we've heard that

there's a lot of substances and products, including CDs. We don't know if lottery paper -- which everyone in the state buys lottery tickets. We're not sure if that has BPA or any other substance in it.

I believe that this makes sense, to do a little bit more due diligence, research and determine if this substance in the format that we're trying to correct which is paper, receipt paper. It's important that we go this route and have a task force that will investigate this a little further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative

Representative Bacchiochi of the 52nd.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a few questions to the proponent of the amendment, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Please proceed, ma'am.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you. Through you, Mr. Speaker, would the study include other items other than cash register receipts? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, Mr. Speaker, this task force is limited to the health affects specifically on thermal receipt paper and cash receipt paper. There clearly was an interest, you now, from the underlying bill to address this particular issue. And I think by limiting the scope of the study we will be able to produce a report in a sufficient time frame to address this quickly. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you. And to the best of your knowledge, does the proponent know if other states have started any similar task force, and if so, what type of results they may have come forward with? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if other states have started any task forces. But I certainly know that

there are studies out there dealing with the health affects not only on BPA in receipt paper but also in other products such as baby bottle products. And I think it is important to note that there is no state or, I believe, any country in the globe that has banned receipt paper. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think I heard earlier in the debate that some countries have either passed this or perhaps I heard that they had studied it. And through you, Mr. Speaker, does the proponent know if any international task forces have been formulated to consider this matter?

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of any international task force.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you. And actually, within the last 24 hours, I've been looking at task force creation. And I noticed in the creation of this task force the membership was somewhat limited. And I was wondering if the proponent could explain to me why, perhaps, we're choosing a smaller number of people for this task force compared to some other significant task forces that have been established in Connecticut? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The primary intent of creating this particular task force is number one, to make sure that it's of such a size that could be efficient and report back by February of 2012. in addition, there are a lot of studies out there already. So I believe that this task force would be performing a role as compiling data as opposed to actually having to do research on its own.

You know, for instance, the National Toxicology Program has shown here that there are -- their concerns show that there are negligible affects of BPA in these types of products. And so I would envision

the task force would be best able to look at all these different reports that are out there, compile them and then report out. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Yes, given that the proponent says there are so many other reports, has the proponent found any other location perhaps, where all of these -- all of this information might already be available, where it's already collated into one central site? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not found that. But certainly if you Google this information there's a wealth of data out there, a wealth of reports that are, you know, just online. And so certainly, this task force would have that ability. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I notice that the completion of the task force is actually before the implementation of the underlying bill. If the proponent could just explain, perhaps, how he foresees this going forward should the task force be implemented? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The point of this underlying -- the point of the dates that we have chosen is we've chosen February 15th, 2012 because it actually is -- is -- just about when we will be beginning our next session next year.

So it gives us an opportunity for the committees of cognizance to get this report. They would be in a position to be able to set the public policy that needs to be set and we could put out relevant legislation through that next section and have it appropriately dealt with by 2012, well before the proposed underlying ban date that's in the underlying bill. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the proponent's attempt at answering my question, but technically, he didn't really answer the question I was asking him.

I was wondering if he could explain to me -- I do understand that the date of this task force would -- that the end date of the task force is going to happen before the implementation of the bill. So I would like the proponent to explain to me how he foresees the results of the task force affecting the underlying bill, if he would be so kind? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora, would you please answer Representative Bacchiochi's question?

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly will. This amendment is actually -- it's a strike all amendment. So it seeks to delete all of the provisions of the underlying bill and it resets the clock so we would be addressing how to deal with the thermal paper next session. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi, did he answer your question?

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

He did, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, and I do appreciate that.

Another question I have is in line 7 it states that the task force shall consist of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection. Now I do believe that we're going to be changing the name of that commission. And I'm wondering if your reference to DEP is going to be problematic, being that we are going to be changing the name of that commission to another name? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And that's a great question. My understanding is there are certainly other bills that we've passed out of here with some of these sort of technical glitches. And it is my understanding that representations have been made that LCO will correct those. So I would think that that may happen as a technical correction. If not, we certainly could put another amendment in after this

one to make that correction should this amendment pass. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In line 9 it talks about the committees of cognizance. Exactly which committees of cognizance would be considered for this amendment? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Is that actually line 10?

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you for that correction. You are correct.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the committee of cognizance would be the Environment Committee. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

And -- through you, Mr. Speaker -- and how many members of the General Assembly would be allowed to serve on this task force? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the actual members of the General Assembly would be four. It would consist of the Chairpersons and ranking members of the Environment Committee and then we have appointments that are made by our leadership in the House and the Senate. And under Section C, lines 16 thorough 17, any of those appointments could be members of the General Assembly. So conceivably, all of those appointments could also be members. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, and what is the effective date on -- through you, Mr. Speaker, of this amendment?

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The effective date would be upon passage.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And should somebody unfortunately be forced to vacate the task force, through you, Mr. Speaker, I'm assuming that the same appointing authority that appointed the person who has to vacate would be allowed to appoint a new member to the task force? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is correct in lines 19 through 20.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you and I didn't see here anywhere in the good proponent's amendment exactly how many times the task force would be required to meet. Would that be left up to the discretion of the task force? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Yes, Mr. Speaker. That would be left up to their discretion. They are charged with a hard deadline of February 15th to report out their work. And so lines three through five charges them with what work they need to complete by that date. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker. I think I heard him say that the charge was -- if he could tell me again. What lines are -- is the charge to the task force -- because I've been looking for that. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In lines three through five, the task force is charged with their scope of work and then in lines 29 through 34 is the

requirements that they submit a report by February 15th, 2012. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I know frequently in the last couple months we've been changing our legislation to state that reports and different types of correspondence could be served electronically. I'm wondering, through you, Mr. Speaker, if the report of this task force, would it be acceptable for them to send their report to the appropriate venues electronically? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, lines 33 through 34 require that the report be submitted in accordance with Sections 11-4A of our General Statutes. I believe that statute requires that the report be submitted through the state library and I think that that may be an electronic form given the changes that we recently made with the paperless task force. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Bacchiochi.

REP. BACCHIOCHI (52nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I do feel the proponent has done his best to answer all of my questions. Appreciate that.

It's an important issue and for that reason, Mr. Speaker, when the vote is taken I'd ask that it be taken by roll call.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

There's been a request for when the vote that it be taken by roll call. All those in favor of a roll call vote, signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Hmm. I believe the required 20 percent has been met so when the roll is taken -- I mean the vote is taken, it will be taken by roll.

Ma'am, are you done? Okay, you're all done.

All right. Representative Carter of the 2nd.

REP. CARTER (2nd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in strong support of this amendment. As I tried to illustrate earlier I

think there's been this excitement about this concept of banning BPA when the science is still questionable.

You know, the bottom line is this amendment makes a very reasonable way to look at this problem and decide what kind of affect we have on our society here in Connecticut. There's been questions as to whether BPA was an issue with children with respect to baby bottles. Yet, we're not talking about baby bottles today. We're talking about thermal cash receipts for adults. There have been questions as to whether it's linked to cardiovascular disease. Yet, the studies are still somewhat inconclusive. So before we go off and just try to do something that's going to have a significant effect on industries in our state, I think it would be wise if we would back up a little bit and make sure that we look at this problem and decide if there really is a problem before we move forward.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to speak strongly in support of this amendment. And I hope my colleagues would support it as well.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative Carter.

Representative Alberts of the 50th.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may, several questions to the proponent of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

In the Section 1, under B we have in lines six through ten, several references to the membership of the task force. Is there a reason why the Commerce Committee wasn't included? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this was -- is an issue that's certainly been before the Environment Committee and so I thought that -- I thought that it was best to leave that committee the committee of cognizance on this issue. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And looking past that at lines 21 through 25, there's reference to the selection process for the Chairpersons of the task

force. What I've often seen is that Chairpersons are often selected by the membership of the task force. Is there a reason why that wasn't pursued? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

No, Mr. Speaker, the selection here was to have the Chairperson be selected by the House and President of the Senate. There was really no reason for that. It certainly could have gone the other way. It was just a discretionary drafting decision. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And in line 33, the report, it appears, is going to be provided to the Environment and Commerce committees, but there's no mention of Public Health and I would think that would be an important committee to have included. What might the rationale for that be? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, certainly as I mentioned before, the Environment Committee has been the one that has addressed the issue of bisphenol A. So certainly, clearly they were the committee of cognizance.

Also the Commerce Committee, given the impact that this is going to have on our business community, appropriately would be the two bodies that should be receiving the report. But I'd like to note that in lines 33 and 34, in referencing Section 11-4A of our statutes, it does require this document be filed in our library. So it would give every committee and certainly every member of the General Assembly an opportunity to read through -- to read this -- to get access to this report. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And PRI as well would have access to this? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Yes, Mr. Speaker. PRI would also have access.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Alberts.

REP. ALBERTS (50th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do thank the gentleman for bringing this forward and I urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative.

Representative Chapin of the 67th.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a question to the proponent, through you, please?

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before deciding whether I support this, can the gentleman tell me if the House ranking member of the Environment Committee can assign a designee to this task force?

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Candelora.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

As I read this, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Chairs and ranking members are voluntarily mandatory members of the committee. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

How unfortunate, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you. Will you remark further on House Amendment "A"? Will you remark further?

If not, will staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Will the members please be seated. And the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting House Amendment Schedule "A" by roll call. Members to the Chamber, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted on House "A? Please check the board and make sure your vote has been properly cast. If all members have

voted, the machine will be locked. Will the Clerk please take the tally.

And would the Clerk will please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Senate Bill 210 as amended by Senate "A," and this is on House "A."

Total number voting	146
Necessary for passage	74
Those voting yea	52
Those voting nay	94
Those absent and not voting	5.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The Amendment is defeated.

Representative Clemons, for what purpose do you rise, sir?

REP. CLEMONS (124th):

Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the Chamber that I inadvertently, my mistake, pressed Representative Hamm's nay button, instead of mine, but I cleared it out. It's been cleared out.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

And Mr. Clemons, you recorded your vote in the proper fashion after clearing out Representative Hamm's vote. Is that correct?

REP. CLEMONS (124th):

(Inaudible).

(Deputy Speaker Altobello in the Chair.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

I believe that was -- the answer is in the affirmative.

Further on -- further on the bill as amended? Further on the bill as amended? Representative Candelora of the 86th. You have the floor, sir.

REP. CANDELORA (86th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's obvious that I stand in opposition to this bill. And one of the concerns that I have with this bill is I guess the message that it does send out to our community and the public policy that it's not setting, but rather the procedural quandary that it creates for our business community.

This is the type of legislation that I think can be viewed as an assault on our businesses. And I

appreciate the underlying intent of the bill. Certainly we all have an interest in making sure that public health concerns are met. And chemicals that are harmful to our constituents, to our residents in Connecticut should be taken out of the stream of commerce. It is unquestionable.

The problem that I have with this legislation is that it doesn't do that. All it does is sets up a future ban and creates the message to our business community that we don't care about you, we'll let you deal with the situation and it doesn't really address the public harm that may or may not be out there.

In looking at some of the underlying health concerns and the health risks, certainly this substance has been banned in foreign countries. But to make it clear -- and I don't think that I'm misunderstanding this -- other countries and other states have banned baby bottles. That's been the extent of the ban. It's been limited to food product items or containers that hold food products. There is no country, not even Canada, that bans this thermal receipt paper. So we will be the first in the country to put this step forward.

And what concerns me is that this Chamber and the Chamber upstairs is willing to send that public policy message out that we are going to ban this thermal receipt paper to the detriment of our business community without, number one, knowing what affect it really would have on our public health.

And that's disturbing to me. I think that as a state when we're setting public policy we need to set public policy in the here and now within this session. And if we don't know the answers to our questions, rather than delay a ban out four years, which is going to create much anxiety for our business community, we should be studying the issue more.

There is no reason why we should be passing a bill that puts a ban out into the future. I don't think it demonstrates to the world that we're on the cutting edge of this issue. I think it just demonstrates to the world that we are willing to punt our policies down the road and allow for, essentially, the private sector to address this issue. This bill doesn't set up a mechanism at all for government to address the problem first.

And that's why I had proposed that amendment because I think that's the direction we need to go.

If we are going to identify a problem in our society we need to be the ones that come up with the solution rather than just shift that burden onto the private sector to figure out. And so I strongly oppose this legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hovey of the 112th, you have the floor, Madam.

REP. HOVEY (112th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, through you, a question to the proponent of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed, Madam.

REP. HOVEY (112th):

Thank you, sir. I just wanted to go back to the idea of how one would be impacted by -- and I cannot say this word so -- the toxin. How one would be impacted by the toxin through either touch or through inhaling? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The BPA on receipts -- and I'm guessing the gentlelady is asking about the

receipts -- is what they call unbonded (sic). So it is not an integral part of the paper, it is a surface part of the paper and rubs off. So it rubs off on your hands and -- and it's difficult to wash off.

So what they've discovered is that you transmit it to anybody that you touch, including your children. I would say if you stroke your child's face or that kind of thing. And if you put it in your purse and you have children's toys in there or snacks or whatever and it interacts with that. It's very aggressive in terms of clinging to things and, you know, once it's given to a child, that can be ingested in any way a child does, which are many.

So that's essentially how it's transmitted. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hovey.

REP. HOVEY (112th):

Thank you, sir. So how long would the gentlewoman say that when you are given a receipt, how long do your fingers probably actually touch that receipt? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I'm assuming if I'm any -- and if I can use myself as an example, probably not very long. But I do throw them into my pocketbook where they accumulate and rub all over everything that I use, including makeup and wallets and that kind of thing. So, it's kind of a cumulative pile of receipts that I think many of us kind of carry around and if we have other things in our pocketbooks as well, it rubs off on those things as well. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Hovey.

REP. HOVEY (112th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the gentlewoman for her answers.

I'm happy to hear that this is not a toxin that might be an inhalant through its lack of attachment to the paper. But I also know that through the receipt there's a very brief moment that anyone really touches the receipt and I would daresay that receipts barely spend any amount of time in my particular purse because I don't want the evidence following me home after a shopping spree. So the gentlewoman needs to

clean out her purse. There's way too much evidence in there.

But I really do believe, Mr. Speaker, that this does go one step too far. And I think within this Body, I've had a reputation of being very proactive around protecting our children and our families. I do think that this particular step is one step too far and I will not be able to support this legislation. Thank you, sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative Hovey.

Representative Smith of the 108th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, good evening.

Just a few questions, if I may, to the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please prepare yourself, Representative Reed. Representative Smith, please proceed.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, sir. I'm just wondering how many reported injuries we have, if you know, for this type of the touching of this type of paper. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I think as we've discussed earlier, this is a toxin that enters out environment and commingles with other toxins and so like all of these things, we're really not quite sure how all they ultimately impact us. All we know that we have very strange illnesses in our populace among otherwise healthy people. And the studies are beginning to show that the toxins that we are putting into our environment on a daily basis are contributing to that.

So again, long winded answer, but it -- it's hard to say specifically. But the reality is we see evidence of BPA coursing through people's systems and mounting evidence of showing it is a toxin. So the assumption is that it can't be good for you. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

There's that word "evidence" again that Representative Hovey used.

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you and thank you for that answer. And so as I understood your answer, there's no direct correlation between the use of this type of paper and the injuries that may appear or some of the affects that this may cause to persons as we stand here this evening. Is that correct? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The BPA is -- mounting evidence shows that it is toxic to human health. So as an example, it does mimic estrogen. And in laboratories when large doses of it are applied to, say, breast cancer cells in a petri dish, they gobble it up.

I know a lot of us have had various cancers, I myself, am a breast cancer survivor. So that says to me not a good thing to have in my system. And so that -- that kind of evidence, mounting evidence is what we're going on. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And again, thank you for that answer. How much BPA is -- as you describe it as -- has to be in one's system for it to cause any type of damage to the body? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. You know, the indications seem to be that the doses are getting smaller and smaller as studies show. And when you interact with it and -- for instance, fetal development is also key. So the younger the recipients of BPA exposure, the more they're going to be impacted. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

If you'd be kind enough, through you, Mr. Speaker, to describe the nature of the potential injuries that this type of toxin could cause to the body. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

So studies are linking it to all kinds of things. As I mentioned, breast cancer, prostate cancer linkage is being shown. It's a known endocrine disruptor so that's a developmental issue. It is considered linked to reproductive disorders and infertility to learning and behavioral disorders such as ADHD, obesity, insulin resistance, diabetes and cardo (sic) vascular -- cardio vascular disease. So it's really quite a recipe and quite a repertoire of impacts that it has. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you and all of those sound like very serious medical conditions that could arise from the use of this product.

But I guess what I'm trying to get at is how much do we really have to interact with this toxin before we could actually be subjected to this type of potential injury to our body.

I know you mentioned that studies have found that a little bit could cause this, but I'm not sure what a little means. Do we have to handle it or a significant period of time? Do we have to handle it

every day? These are the types of questions that I still -- I'm not sure of. So if the good Madam could help me with that, I'd be grateful. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Yes, through you, Mr. Speaker, thank you for the question.

As evidence mounts, it's clear it sort of follows the path of a lot of other things that we've discovered over time to have really very negative impacts on our -- on our children and on ourselves.

Lead was once suspected to have impacts. It took several years to really realize that the studies as they mounted, it's devastating. So lead was one of those. It began as BPA. It began to show that it created impairments and we studied more and more, and more children were impacted. And more and more children, quite frankly died from lead poisoning. So we banned lead several years ago.

The same thing with tobacco products. I mean I think all of us in our own lifetimes have seen that tobacco -- I mean, we knew years ago. Many of us in

school they showed these terrible scary pictures of what happens to your lungs when you smoke tobacco over a period of time. And yet, we -- still no surgeon general's warning on the packages and yet the evidence was mounting year after year and impacting our entire health care system, impacting our health and impacting, you know, all kinds of medical ramifications with that.

So a lot of scientists believe that the evidence is mounting that BPA is going to become one of those. As somebody mentioned DT -- DDT earlier and its impact on the environment. There are things that it takes awhile to really see where it's going. But the evidence, as it mounts, begins to really teach people who understand how to read it that danger is happening.

And I think Connecticut considers itself out in front, certainly among the first to ban lead. And we'd like to be out in front when it comes to the health of our people and our children. Through you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry for the long winded answer.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

No, and I appreciate the long answer. It helps at least clarify what we're talking about this evening.

Now, you had mentioned earlier about some studies that were undertaken to determine the dangers of this particular toxin. Could you answer for me please how long ago these studies were done? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

As recently as 2010 with the President's Cancer Panel. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Yes, and thank you, Mr. Speaker. And that study through the President's Cancer Panel was that specific to this toxin or was it a variety of different toxins? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker -- excuse me.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed. Please proceed, Madam

REP. REED (102nd):

Excuse me for preempting you, Mr. Speaker. It involved a variety of toxins, but this was among them and it's something that was definitely on the radar in 2010.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And those studies that were done in 2010, did they come out with a definitive answer one way or another as to whether this is a dangerous product or not? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Enough of -- of evidence to encourage doctors and medical researchers who deal with human development, particularly in the youngest of our citizens, to really give people a heads up in terms of trying to avoid BPA and the leaching into systems. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you for that answer. And besides this study with the Presidential cancer study that you just mentioned, have there been any other studies done concerning this particular toxin, BPA? Thank you. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. There have been several. There's one being conducted now at the University of North Carolina in their Public Health Department that -- and I think I mentioned earlier, my niece, who's a PhD in toxicology and fetal development is involved in. There are studies at Yale. The Smilow Cancers and Research Center is looking at it and its impact on breast cancer. And there's a good deal of research going on there. There's research going on at the University of Washington, my -- where I went to grad school and I'm in contact with people at the University of Washington Medical School who are researching its impact on fetal development. I believe that the University of Texas, also impacts on childhood development, and many others that I probably have omitted.

But it's definitely on the radar and it's one of many toxins that's being studied in terms of trying to figure out why we have some any kids who are having behavioral/developmental problems, ADHD and that kind of thing. It's implicated in that as well. So there are many studies going on. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, sir. And are there any studies that show actually that this is not a danger to the human body? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. While I'm sure one can find them, I mean, there -- there -- I'm sure there are studies that show that tobacco is not a danger to the human body.

And as one peruses the Internet one can probably find studies that back up any way your mind seems to be going. But the reality is that we really need to deal with studies of respected institutions, respected peer study -- peer review studies. And so I don't

know of any that are bona fide that I totally agree with. There's always -- you know, there are always scientists who are looking in every direction, as well they should. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I guess -- I think I got some of the answer I was looking for. So there are in fact, studies out there that show that this is not a danger at this time. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Oh. Okay. Through you, Mr. Speaker, yes. Yes, there are studies out there that show it's not a danger. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And is it fair to say at this time that the danger, if any, of this particular toxin is still being studied by the medical society? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the good Representative is correct and that's the reason for the delay in implementing it and allowing also -- so that's allowing for further research to take place, for safe substitutes to be discovered and implemented and for current inventory to be utilized. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And based on the fact that these studies are inconclusive at this time as to whether, in fact, it is a danger or it is not a danger, would it be wise in your opinion for this Chamber to wait until those studies are completed? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Is that a rhetorical question? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

I've been accused of worse, but I was actually looking for an answer. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. As the proponent of the bill as amended, I am -- I am -- and as someone who follows these issues closely, I believe that we should once again take the lead as we have done in the past, the state of Connecticut, and safety first and move to protect our public health, knowing that we're leaving enough time, should research indicate otherwise, to not implement the bill and the mandates that we are passing this evening. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And thank you for that answer. And just to kind of sum up on this line of questioning. Has the medical society or the medical association at this time come up with a definitive ruling one way or the

other as to whether this is in fact a dangerous toxin? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It -- so do we mean the American Medical Association? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Yes, we can start there, the American Medical Association. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I'm guessing no. But I believe the AMA is rightly pretty conservative in terms of waiting for the absolute definitive recognition of these things before coming down absolutely. And I believe we have enough research to indicate that we're moving in the right direction and that we're acting in a rational, reasonable and

responsible way to take the kinds of precautions that we're advocating. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And does the proponent of the bill have any knowledge of any other medical associations in any other country that have indicated that this is an inherently dangerous toxin that should be banned? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, clearly medical associations that impact western Europe have indicated that it's dangerous enough to ban it in baby bottles and baby food containers. And the nation of Canada has put BPA on its toxin -- toxic chemical list, which means that Canada can go product by product to ban it without going through the legislative process anymore. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And if the -- if the good Representative knows, in terms of the contact with the paper, are there in studies that indicate how long one actually has to have it in his or her possession -- in other words, in his or her hands to actually cause any type of damage or defect to one's body? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, as I've been discussing with the wonderful Representative Hovey a little earlier, some of us hold onto receipt paper longer than others. So it's not a bonded process, which means that it freely and quickly rubs off on your skin. So if you were to handle it briefly it would still rub off on your skin.

And if you -- since I have not cleaned out my purse recently -- accumulate receipts the way I do, it rubs off on everything in your purse -- not that you would be carrying one -- and -- and when you touch that it rubs off on your hands again. So -- through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And thank you for that answer. Is there a period of time after which it will dissipate? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I can't -- I honestly say -- I must honestly say I don't really know the answer to that. I -- I assume -- I know that it is difficult to wash off of your hands. It gets absorbed through the skin rather readily. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

And I thank the good Representative for her answer. And that's one of the things that I think we're talking about here tonight. There is no evidence that this toxin will not dissipate after a certain period of time. It may dissipate after five seconds, it could dissipate after five minutes, it could dissipate after five days. The studies for that

are still being conducted as I understand it here this evening.

So I think perhaps the Chamber might be acting a little rashly if this be were to be -- to go forward without having the full knowledge of what this may or may not do until we actually get some scientific evidence that we need to ban this product for those reasons.

And I'm wondering if the type of paper we're talking about -- we all go up to our gas stations to fill up these days to get back and forth to Hartford and typically you can get a receipt if one is to charge the gas. Would it be in that type of paper? Is that what we're talking about here tonight? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. It can be.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Smith.

REP. SMITH (108th):

I think we've reached the end of my questions here tonight and I want to thank the good speaker and

the good Representative for her answers. She's helped clarify a lot for this evening.

I'd just ask the Chamber to consider once again that the answers that we received tonight are indefinite at best. There are studies being conducted. There are some indications that it may be dangerous. There are some indications that it may not be dangerous. And I'm not sure that we just want to actually jump on one or the other.

And I understand the rationale of wanting to be prudent and be safe and be careful in what we're doing on a day-to-day basis. And I think we can all use our common sense to do that as well. And I think this legislation, we -- this period of law -- this term, we've tried to legislate a lot of common sense, and in fact, have done so. And I think, Mr. Speaker, that we don't always have to do that. We can actually rely upon ourselves to actually use good judgment as to whether we wish to handle this or take the receipt or how we want to proceed in that regard. So again, I thank the good Representative for her answers. And thank you for your time.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative Smith.

From the bedding plant capitol of Connecticut, we have Representative Adinolfi of the 103rd. You have the floor, sir.

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I'd like to make a statement and then I will go through you and ask the proponent of the bill a question.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please proceed.

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

I've been in the engineering field, retired a few years back. For 44 years I was in engineering management. Twenty years of that time I worked for the largest printer company in the world, Data Products Corporation out of California. We had a division right here in Connecticut at Wallingford.

My question that I would like to ask through you, to the proponent of the bill, have you considered if they do develop a new paper that is not toxic, would it be able to be used with the same printing mechanisms that they have now? Or would a supermarket that has ten cash registers at $20- $25,000 each have to replace the printing mechanism within that printer?

I know some of the printers my engineers designed that were working for me would print ten copies. We had this large band printers and drum printers that would do them, you know, the 132 columns wide, that would print all these copies at one time. This went on for years and years.

And I'm just wondering have they -- has the committee that -- the proponent of this bill has taken into consideration the actual long term costs of coming up with a new paper? Will they have to replace some of the printing mechanisms? We have ATM machines, we have gas stations, we have businesses with high speed printers that use thermal paper. It's not just simply receipts. So I'd just like to know if you have taken into consideration the overall cost to the business owners out here in Connecticut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you -- thanking the good Representative for his question. Yes, indeed. What is happening now with the EPA task force, it is finding a safe substitute. They are

working with industry and they're working on -- since you're an engineer, you would know what this means -- a drop in technology so when they replace the paper with a safe substitute it can easily be adapted to current machines. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Adinolfi,

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

Thank you. Through you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that. But you have no guarantee that that can happen. It might take them an extra ten years to develop a paper that would work in every machine out there is what I'm trying to say. It might work in some of them but will it work in all of them?

They might come up with a different thermal paper that might require the machine to have different temperatures involved in it, a harder hammer hit when it does the printing or an ink jet, whatever the case is.

I just can't believe from my background that they will be able to use -- that every printer out there would be able to have this new paper directly replace what they're using now, unless they change the mechanism somewhat. Hopefully they could do it within

the same machines and just change the printing portion, but I don't think we have any guarantee of that. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed, care to comment?

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I would have to defer to your expertise on paper and I welcome the question. The intent and the goal is to create a safe substitute that can be readily and easily utilized in current machines.

And I think -- I don't think the intent of this legislation is to be punitive to retailers. And I think we'll also be rational and responsible when transitions need to happen in terms of utilizing, using up existing inventory and transitioning to a safe substitute. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Adinolfi.

REP. ADINOLFI (103rd):

I want to thank you for your answers, through you, Mr. Speaker. And I just want to remind the people here that the cost will probably not only be in

the paper, but it could also be in the mechanisms associated with them.

You take a supermarket that has ten cash registers at $25,000 each, they're digital and so on, that's $250,000 for one store, if they have only ten. Many have more. So I just want the people in the room to take that into consideration before we vote on this bill. And maybe we should give it more time and see what they do come out with and with the real results will be of the research they're doing on the new paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative Adinolfi.

Further on the bill as amended? Representative Shaban of the 135th. You have the floor, sir.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may, a few questions through you to the proponent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

You surely may. Please proceed, sir.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you, I notice the Senate Amendment "A" we speak about extending the time limit should the EPA find that there's no

commercially available alternative. Through you, Mr. Speaker, my question to the proponent is what studies if any is she aware of regarding commercial alternatives going on at the federal level? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you -- through you, Mr. Speaker. To the good Representative Shaban, there is a task force attached to the EPA with scientists and toxicologists who are working very closely with the industry right now as we speak to develop a safe substitute. And they are convinced that they will have a substitute product available by the end of 2011. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you for the response. And through you, are you aware of any other task forces, whether through the EPA or the federal level, where commercial alternatives have been incorporated into the charge of

the EPA, and then through that, pushed down through the state legislation? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I do not. I'm not saying that there aren't any. But I have to admit that I -- none is popping into the front of my mind right now. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Similar question with respect to the FDA. And if the Representative answered this before, I apologize. Is the FDA doing a test on BPA as well? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Not that I know of. I believe that they are standing by to see what happens within the EPA. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

And Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you and through you, I mean, I guess my -- the origin of my question is the introduction method here appears to be hand to mouth or eating or some kind of ingestion. And having the EPA look at this in the context of what they typically do is chemical spills, point sources, air pollution as opposed to the FDA raises a little concern, thus the origin of my question. But I'll move on.

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Is the proponent aware of any studies being done in Europe? And in specifically speaking, the REACH program for toxic chemicals being -- that has been developed in Europe for several years now. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I know that BPA is on the radar in general. I can say -- I can't say that I know specifically about studying BPA receipt paper, but I suspect that REACH, knowing how broadly they do reach are probably on top of any studies that are being done. Through you, Mr. Speaker. But again, just speculating.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There again rides a little concern. For those who know the REACH program, which has been going on in Europe for many years now, is arguably years out ahead or at least in front of, chronologically, the efforts in the US to list and ban different commercial chemicals that are introduced into commerce. I took a look at the REACH list and I mean there's hundreds of chemicals on that list. I didn't see any BPA, which raises a bit of a concern.

Following a similar line of questioning, through you, Mr. Speaker, is the proponent aware of any trade association reports or opinions with respect to the use of BPA in products introduced into commerce? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to make sure I understood your question clearly. So are you asking are these trade associations opposed to banning BPA? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Well, Representative Shaban would you care to rephrase or repeat your question?

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess my question was more with respect to whether the proponent was aware of -- for instance there's a chemical trade association, whether or not they had offered an opinion or a study on the -- on how and whether and why and which chemicals, in particular BPA, might be good or bad in a particular product?

And the reason I ask the question is because trade associations throughout the United States typically do that. And when I was sitting on Environmental Committee I saw a lot of written testimony that contains some fuzzy math, but I don't recall seeing a specific trade association report. And I may have missed it, I may have forgotten about it. So through you, my question is again with respect to trade association studies on BPA. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. I have to honestly say I don't know of trade studies although I'm not saying that they're not happening.

But I will point out that when we sought to ban BPA from children's products we had several companies including Nestle's coming forward to say that they already had eliminated it use. So companies that are sort of forward looking in trying to understand -- and you speak with expertise like you really understand this -- tried to get out ahead of the curve and to actually advertise their products by saying they are BPA free. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank the Representative for her response.

Moving on to a different part of the bill. The bill states even as amended that the Commissioner of Consumer Protection within available appropriations is going to enforce the provisions of the ban. Through you, Mr. Speaker, do we -- what does that mean? It's a broad question, but what does that mean? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, as with all of these things we have to promulgate regulations that sort of set up a structure for it. But the assumption is that there will be a toxicologist, we have them on staff within the Department of Public Health to advise the Consumer Protection Department on how to, you know, if there's commercial dealers that are reported to be using it to be helpful in terms of saying that we no longer approve of using that kind of paper.

As I've said before, it is not the intention of this legislation to be punitive to retailers. We're just sort of trying to get BPA out of the commercial stream. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has the Department or the Commission of Consumer Protection, have they made an affirmative finding that BPA is a danger to the Connecticut public in the stream of commerce? Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Well, the Department of -- the Consumer Protection Department, that's really -- you know, their responsibility to -- they do not have the science to do that so they look for the studies and they look for us to help direct them in -- you know, how to do it and where to go and how to prioritize. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I guess that really kind of underlines the concern I have on this particular issue is we have a Commissioner, a Department of Consumer Protection that is looking to a legislative body to make a scientific decision based upon the opinions of different groups without proper -- seemingly -- seemingly without scientific basis.

So a similar question. Has the DEP, through you, Mr. Speaker, has the DEP made a finding that BPA being introduce either into our water course or to our air or to our products, that that is affirmatively

dangerous to the population of Connecticut? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. The DEP has not, but we've pushed this out long enough so that the EPA science will come and will be able to inform the DEP. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess that's again a bit of concern. We're going to pass a law and hope that the science catches up to it as opposed to have the science and then see whether we should pass a law. Therein lies a bit of an issue.

Final question, through you, Mr. Speaker. How would -- is there a private cause of action available through this statute should somebody feel themselves harmed or somehow injured by a product with BPA in it? Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Reed.

REP. REED (102nd):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Not through this legislation particularly but probably the same kind of cause of action that's available to anybody who is resisting anything that any state agency is implementing is available. Through you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank the Representative for her responses. I -- obviously we have a long discussion on this. Again, I have a problem passing legislation and hoping that the science catches up to it to gain political points, but I understand the goal here and I appreciate the effort. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Representative (inaudible) further on the bill as amended. Further on the bill as amended?

Representative Thompson of the 13th you have the floor, sir.

REP. THOMPSON (13th):

Good evening, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Good evening, Representative.

REP. THOMPSON (13th):

Colleagues, I will make this very short. I am quoting from a publication put out after the public hearing on the original bill back in March.

And -- and speaking against the -- that bill, the person testifying said "The legislature clearly has the mandate to protect the citizens of the state. We would ask that you consider the level of expertise and dedication of our public servants at the FDA, EPA and other federal agencies that work to safeguard the publics health and safety. Additionally, this legislation" which is comparable to our bill "does not take into consideration any process for alternative assessments." In other words, finding an alternative to BPA. "We believe that the committee should consider the minimum scientific credentials that might be required for a state, federal or international organization to be considered a source."

So it is this gentleman's appeal that the US Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, is looking at BPA and has some information. The Department of Health and Human Services, National Library of

Medicine and the Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry are just a few.

My suggestion is and it's just a suggestion, is that after tonight, when we do not have anything other than a bill that went down, I believe, that we come together through the legislative process. We ask our speaker to delegate to the committees of cognizance, the Environment Committee and the Public Health Committee -- and both committees are loaded with people who are knowledgeable, who are dynamic, who are innovative, and ask them to take on this task of putting together where do we go from here.

And I believe that they will do that job. They will come up with an alternative. And we will be better for it. But we have to come up with something. We cannot leave it out there in Never, Never land.

And at the same time, we access every agency in Washington but primary -- the primary agencies that work with this subject. And through our Congressional delegation we make it an issue of our entire state and for that matter, it will be an issue for the entire country. This is a situation that not only affects Connecticut but affects all 50 states.

And it seems to me that we have an opportunity through the combined work of our committees and everybody they access, including our congressional delegation, to help us to find a solution that doesn't do harm to our industries, that doesn't do harm to our population and doesn't do harm to this Legislature because we'll be working together to find a solution.

We can vote this down and we don't need a resolution and we know he's got plenty of it, the good will and good sense of our speaker, the good will and good sense of leadership on both sides of the aisle. Let's do that and go home with the confidence that we will work to help these committees and the committees will do their job. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Thank you, Representative Thompson.

Further on the bill as amended?

If not, staff and guests please retire to the Well of the House. Members, take your seats. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House of

Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

Please check the board.

Let's get rolling.

Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Please check the board to make sure your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked. Clerk, please take the tally.

Would the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Senate Bill 210 as amended by Senate "A," and in concurrence with the Senate.

Total number voting	145
Necessary for passage	73
Those voting yea	112
Those voting nay	33
Those absent and not voting	6.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO:

The bill as amended passes in concurrence with the Senate.

Representative Tallarita, for what purpose do you rise, Madam?

REP. TALLARITA (58th):

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CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE

PROCEEDINGS
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Calendar 214, substitute for Senate Bill 210, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER, Favorable Report of the Environment Committee and General Law Committee.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move acceptance of the committee's joint and Favorable Report on this bill and move passage of the bill and request respectfully the opportunity to summarize.

THE CHAIR;

The motion is acceptance and passage. You have the floor Senator Meyer, so please proceed.

SENATOR MEYER:

Thank you, sir. Colleagues, you will recall last year we passed a bill, Governor signed, which prohibited the use of Bisphenol-A in certain children's products. And, Bisphenol-A has been found through extensive research in this country as well as abroad, to be a toxic chemical affecting the endocrine system and has been associated as Mount Sinai Hospital said recently with obesity, diabetes, and cancer as well as other adverse health outcomes.

One of the products of our research indicated that there are certain types of cash receipts, the kind of receipt you'll get in the bank when you make a deposit, the kind of receipt you get in the grocery store after you make a purchase, that many of those cash receipts have Bisphenol-A in them. Many do not.

So, there is an alternative and the Bisphenol-A to the touch causes the toxic reaction. And, consequently a number of health sources including Mount Sinai Hospital, the Public Health Association of Connecticut and others came to the Environment Committee and asked us to prohibit Bisphenol-A in cash receipts paper. We want to give the industry the chance to get through this and so this bill would become effective in 2013 and would prohibit Bisphenol-A in cash receipts paper starting in 2013. So, that's the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator for that explanation. Do you care to remark further? Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you a few questions to the proponent of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Please frame your questions.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you to Senator Meyer. I know that this Bisphenol-A or BPA as it's sometimes referred we've had bills in front of previously in past years out of the Environment Committee I believe, in regard to baby bottles, though you, is that true?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Mr. President, that is absolutely true. Baby bottles in particular.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Through you to the proponent, wasn't that because I think a lot of the testimony was that the baby bottles would be heated up and the chemical would then be released? Through you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I think that was one theory, through you, Mr.

President, but other chemists and testified before our committee that the bottle didn't need to be heated up to cause a problem for children and that it was very much associated with infertility 20 years later. This bill of course does not relate to it, heating up anything, it just relates to the touch of these cash receipts papers.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President, and through you, so I think you just said it, the bottle does not have to be heated up, it can still be found to be released through that baby bottle and then of course injected by the child and hence the concern, through you, is that correct? Did I hear that correctly, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Mr. President, that was the testimony that came before our committee.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

And, at that time, through -- thank you, Mr. President, and at that time, did we also in that bill recommend that it not be in any other children's products like toys or anything else, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Mr. President, I don't believe we got into toys. We got into other children's food products and drinking products but I don't think we touched toys with respect to Bisphenol-A. We did bring out legislation of some toxic chemicals in toys, but it wasn't Bisphenol-A.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. And, I thank Senator Meyer for his answers. Through you, is this chemical in other products as well besides these cash register receipts that we're talking about, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Other than the baby products and cash receipt

paper, we are not informed about any other products that have Bisphenol-A in them. You'll probably notice that now products are often saying they're Bisphenol-A free. So, we think that in Connecticut and also throughout the country and the world, there's been a recognition and therefore products that did contain Bisphenol-A, no longer contain Bisphenol-A. Saying all that, I could be coming back to the Chamber next year with other products containing Bisphenol-A. We just follow the research.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. In the title of the bill it says in thermal receipt paper so is this chemical found in and it may be obsolete, but like thermal fax machines and the paper that they use, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Mr. President, there's a definition in the bill of thermal receipt paper and it merely says that thermal receipt paper means any paper that

is used by a commercial entity to issue a mechanically produced record of a commercial transaction. So, I don't know that it would be in a fax machine. That's not the definition under this bill.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President, but through you, then could a commercial transaction take place over a fax machine, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I suppose we fax business documents to each other, yeah.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Mr. President. So, through you, then if it can be understood that that would be a commercial transaction and, I'm sorry, did you say that the paper used in the thermal fax machines is the same as the paper used in the thermal receipts, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

No, I did not make that representation.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Okay, thank you, Mr. President. Because it -- maybe it's my mind thinking thermal because I know there were thermal fax machines, so I'm just curious if that would be an issue and whether those with these types of machines, although even the fax machine is becoming obsolete, but would they have to go out and get a new fax machine because of this bill. Maybe Staples would like that or Office Max might like the bill, but I'm certain that many businesses probably wouldn't like it. In your earlier comments you mentioned that you may notice, I may notice as a consumer that there are products that say Bisphenol-A free. Is that because industry is taking this initiative already, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Mr. President, yes industry has done that. Indeed our former Attorney General, Richard Blumenthal wrote to five manufacturers of baby bottles containing Bisphenol-A and each one of those five major manufacturers like Nestle, withdrew Bisphenol-A and uses a different product for that plastic. So, I think there's a common recognition, not just here but in the country and the world that this is a toxic chemical that we want to avoid.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Madame President, thank you. Nice surprise. Through you to Senator Meyer, if industry is doing this already and as you've already stated they're being proactive, why the need for this legislation, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Because the testimony before our committee was that this thermal receipt paper, these cash receipts, exist in great quantity with Bisphenol-A and one of the supporters of this bill interestingly was the

Connecticut Food Council who recognized that Bisphenol-A is in these cash receipts and supports the bill to prohibit Bisphenol-A in these receipts.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Madame President. No, I get that, I believe the testimony that was in front of the Environment Committee. I understand that. My question though is as you've already stated, if industry is being proactive and we're staring to see them remove this product from consumer products as you've stated sometimes it even says Bisphenol=A free, then why the need for this bill. I get the testimony you mentioned, I get the fact that there are some concerns over the chemical, but if we know that industry is being proactive and is doing it themselves -- I guess I come from the anti-mandate type of thinking where free markets and competitions tend to fix themselves or correct themselves.

I think that if it's a product that has a concern and an industry sees that and they are making efforts to remove or reduce it, then why the need, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President. The fact is that proponents of this concept came to us and said Bisphenol-A exists in a great deal of cash receipts papers in Connecticut and they included, if you noticed the people who testified, included the Connecticut Public Health Association, the Connecticut Association of Nurses, Connecticut Food Producers -- a wide diverse group of people came to us and said you ought to ban this and that's what the Environment Committee did.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Madame President. These receipts, this paper, it is used I would imagine very widely, you know without giving plugs, but Dunkin Donuts or at your gas station, at your local retail establishment, at your pizza place, probably everywhere I would imagine, through you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President. I believe it is widely used and it's that reason that we didn't make this bill the ban effective until two years, until the year 2013.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Madame President. I appreciate that but that would also mean that because it's so widely used and because all these businesses are using these machines with this type of paper, that all those businesses that we talk about and I'm sure there are thousands, need to go out and get new machines by 2013, through you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I don't know the technology of that but when the Connecticut Food Producers testified that this was a good bill and asked us to pass it, the cost whether it is large or nominal, did not seem important as banning this toxic chemical.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Madame President. I thank Senator Meyer for his answers. I appreciate that. I do know, I stated on this floor many times and I'm a small business owner, and we are struggling to keep it going. I know a lot of businesses in my community and throughout the state are really just trying to get through this time because the economy is not great as we already know. There are -- I think we lost 6,000 jobs last month.

Everyday you see a new article in the newspaper about 200 jobs here, another couple jobs there. I know that people around this circle, the administration, we're all concerned about that, but as a small business owner I believe, and I haven't tested it, I don't have a little chemistry kit at home, I believe I have one of those type of machines with this type of paper and I use these receipts in my business probably everyday.

So, what you're telling me is that by 2013 myself and all those businesses we talked about throughout the State of Connecticut are going to have to go out

and buy new machines, buy the paper, start all over again with this process. So, I can appreciate the concern. I believe I voted for the measure when we talked about the baby bottles a year or two ago and we always look for children's safety, but I guess I do have one more question, if I might before I end my comments.

Can you explain to me, and this may be too much to ask, I don't know, the process of how the chemical -- you touch the receipt, obviously it gets on your hands and your skin, you know -- what is the process that this is the danger and how much are we exposing ourselves to it when we touch the receipt and make the transaction, through you?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes, through you, Madame President, the testimony to the committee was that people are very much in danger just through touching this receipt paper and that the people who were in the most danger are actually not the customer in the store, but the workers in the workplace who are touching this paper every few minutes and that was the argument that was

being made.

Let me also just address the first part of your concern and that is your small business and the cost to your small business. You know the testimony that we received and the letters we got indicated such a health risk here that I think we felt that the health risk of this particular toxic chemical outweighed the cost. The Connecticut Public Health Association for example, testified as follows: scientific research shows that the public is routinely exposed by this chemical to the risk of serious health threats including, cancer, asthma, infertility and learning and development disabilities.

And, it went on to elaborate on that. And, I think it was our judgment and I hope it will be your judgment that the health, our health and our children's health and our friends and business associates health is a significant factor that we want to take into account as we look at this legislation.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Kane.

SENATOR KANE:

Thank you, Madame President. Maybe we should make an amendment that we repeal the business entity

tax and we could help these businesses pay for their new machines. That might be a good way of broaching the subject because --

SENATOR MEYER:

I have a bill to do that.

SENATOR KANE:

-- we can help out businesses. I guess my concern and I appreciate the Environmental Committee and the people who testified and the concerns of the individuals who spoke and again, I get all that.

My concern, Madame President, is that A this is a mandate on small business, in fact, all business, not just small business, B I'm not totally sold on all the findings that says it's a direct risk, I can understand the concern and over time, over use, I guess you could say that about anything, you know, we worry about the carpet fibers in the carpet, we worry about using our cell phones, you could go on and on and on. Do you eat bran muffins, do you not eat bran muffins, I mean it's just -- you get bombarded with all these things everyday.

But, so that's the only thing I concern myself with is, we are all of a sudden going to change the rules of the game and say you cannot have these

machines any longer, they're possible health risks, so I will be in opposition to the bill. Thank you, Madame President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator.

Will you remark? Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madame President. I do have a number of questions for the proponent of this bill, through you, Madame President.

THE CHAIR:

Please prepare yourself, Senator Meyer. Senator, please proceed.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madame President. And, the questions really fall into two categories. The first being the science behind the bill that's before us and the second is the impact of businesses. So, why don't I start with respect to the science behind the bill. How is it that the chemical goes from the receipt to the human being, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, it goes according to the testimony through just touching the paper.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madame President. And, again, through you, has there been studies that quantify the amount of exposure that actually presents a risk, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

The testimony was, through you, Madame President, the testimony was that as I mentioned in response to Senator Kane's question, that the greatest exposure or toxicity would come to an employee who is regularly handling this kind of paper and that the customer who is not regularly handling the paper would be less exposed to this toxic chemical.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you. And, to follow that up, through you, Madame President, at what point in time is the risk

significant? How much exposure does an employee need, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

We didn't have testimony specifically on that regard.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you. So, we don't know if it's touching 10 receipts a day or if its two years exposure to this type of material is that correct, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, the only testimony we had about the amount of touches was that an employee who is regularly handling this paper, perhaps every minute, has more risk than somebody who is handling this paper occasionally.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you. And, I think that makes common sense. I guess what I'm trying to find is there a point where science says to us that we've cross a threshold that this exposure of a year of handling this 10 times a day is actually going to give us a quantifiable risk of whatever the parade of horribles are that present themselves from this chemical. Has there been any study, any science that shows that? Was any testimony presented before your committee with respect to that, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, as I said, the testimony before us was that the frequency of touching this kind of paper with Bisphenol-A brings greater risk and we didn't have any more specifics than that.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you. Let me then kind of turn to the business side of that and my first question, through you, Madame President, is do we know how many

businesses will be impacted by this law, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

The testimony was that a large number of retail businesses including banks deal with thermal receipt paper or cash receipt paper and that a substantial number, not quantified in testimony, a substantial number use paper that has Bisphenol-A in it and also a substantial number use paper that does not have Bisphenol-A in it.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Okay. And, again through you, just to kind of narrow that down a little bit more, Madame President, do we have any idea as to what the percentage of businesses use it with and what the percentage of businesses use without?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I don't know the

answer to that question.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Okay. And, then through you, Madame President, do we have any idea as to what the cost differences are with respect to paper that has this chemical and paper that doesn't, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I don't, we were not given that information either.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Is it conceivable that it would be less expensive to have non-Bisphenol-A paper, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, of course it could be less expensive, it could be more expensive.

Actually, very ironically, one of the alternatives that is not toxic is something called Bisphenol-B. Bisphenol-A is the toxic one. Bisphenol-B is one of the alternatives. Whether it's more expensive or less expensive, I'm sorry I don't know.

I want to emphasize, Senator, why I'm saying now why we felt so strongly about this bill, because you know, as one witness stated, I'm quoting "BPA is a known hormone disrupting chemical and negative health effects linked to it's exposure include breast and prostate cancer, heart disease, obesity, diabetes and weakened immune systems." And, that -- when that came to our attention, we felt it was our duty as Legislators to protect our constituents.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madame President. And, I have no doubt that those are a real parade of horribles that result from exposure to this chemical. My question and my concern is how and it sounds like the testimony, although not to any scientific certainty, would be through touch and how much exposure and it doesn't sound like we have the answers.

And, so without that kind of -- without answers to those questions, I a little bit loathe to say to who knows how many businesses, that you're going to have to spend some money here to make some changes. And, then if I could just kind of jump back to that latter question, is it as simple as changing the rolls within these products or within the machines that produce these receipts or do we have to actually change the machines, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I don't think I know the answer to that question except from what I've personally observed and that is that these machines could take different kinds of paper and it would look to me as though you'd not have to -- Senator Kane and his small business is not going to have to get a new machine, but he's going to have to get new paper if he's got Bisphenol-A and so I don't think from what I've personally observed that we're talking about changing machines. We are talking about changing paper.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you for that answer, Senator. Again, through you, Madame President, I think one loop I forgot to close with respect to the sciences, I think this paper has been around for a while. Is my understanding correct, do we know how many years we've been using the paper that's currently in question, through you Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I don't know the answer to that question, but I do know again fro the scientific testimony that we were given, was that the toxic affect can be as far down as 20 years.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

I'm sorry. I didn't quite understand that last statement, through you, Madame President.

SENATOR MEYER:

The toxic affect will not be felt for as long as 20 years.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you. So, if I were to expose myself to this chemical today, I might not know what the results or consequences to that exposure are until 59 as it were, is that correct, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, that's correct.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Okay. Assuming that I'm 39. So, again back to the loop that I would like to close with respect to the sciences, if this product has been around for a long time, let's just say hypothetically 1950's and I think that might be somewhat of a safe assumption, I would expect that there would be some science that would say through absorption through skin, through exposure to the paper as opposed to exposure though heated bottles, that we do know with a reasonable degree of scientific certainty that this paper is

dangerous as it is currently manufactured but it is my understanding that nobody presented anything along those lines to the committee, is that correct, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yeah, through you, Madame President, I don't think I know the answer to that question but when you see Canada has prohibited Bisphenol-A in everything, it's now outlawed in Canada, our neighbor, you know and they're studies are very, very strong, I think we've gotten a strong signal of what to do.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

And, again, through you, Madame President, I'm a little bit curious as to the Connecticut Food Producers testimony. I haven't had a chance to read it, maybe you could enlighten me since you were on the committee, why are they necessarily lobbying for the passage of this bill as opposed to just telling their members, hey it's a good idea that you change the paper in your machines. Do you have any understanding

as to why that might be, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes, I'm actually looking for -- I'm actually looking for their -- I have a summary of their testimony, through you, Madame President, and let me give that to you, Senator, if I could. I'm having trouble laying my hands on their testimony, but I have a very lengthy file as you can imagine on this with a great deal of support. And, the support of that Food Association was one of the sources that I reflected. I'm sorry, I just can't lay my hand on it.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madame President. And, that's fair. I'll try to chase that down this evening myself. I am concerned about the consequences of this chemical within the stream of commerce to some degree though I remain unpersuaded that the particular remedy that we're seeking is appropriate especially given the climate, especially given what I've seem to see as a

lack of science with respect to the transmission questions that I have been asking.

With that said, I will definitely make sure that no receipts are lying around my house or my cars so my kids don't ingest them because I could clear see how that that could cause a serious problem rather than the contact situation. With that, I will not be supporting the bill as today though I will be continuing to follow this saga because I do think that there are concerns that we need to be thinking about. And, that's all I have. Thank you, Madame President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator Welch. Will you remark? Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you, Madame President. Through you, Madame President, if I may?

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

SENATOR SUZIO:

The proposed bill in Section 1, subsection B states the following: On and after October 1, 2013, no person shall manufacture, sell, offer for sale, or distribute in the state any thermal receipt paper or

cash register receipt paper that contains Bisphenol-A. Several questions pertaining to that to the good Senator. First, how was the date October 1, 2013 established as the target date for implementation?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

That was a date that was suggested to us by supermarkets to give them time to use up their existing paper and you know, we're in a tough business climate and we felt that that was a reasonable request is to go and do, I guess it's actually the summer, October, the fall of -- almost two and a half years then and it was -- that was brought to us by the supermarkets.

SENATOR SUZIIO:

Through you. This is rather strange talking to her to talk to him right there.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

In that relevant section, it says no person shall manufacture, sell, offer for sale or distribute. Can you define for me what it means by distribute as used

in this phrase?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, distribution would be the manufacture or wholesaler of this paper distributing it to the retail store whether that be a supermarket or a bank.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you and through you, Madame President, so basically distribution is intended to refer to a commercial transaction of some sort between the owner of the product and someone else who's going to acquire title to the product?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, that is correct.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Okay. All right. One thing that I find a little

confusing is that the title says an act prohibiting the use of Bisphenol-A but the prohibition is on the sale of it. Now, one might assume that the use might substantially terminate as a result of the inability of people to sell, but that's not necessarily true. For example, and I would ask the good Senator how this situation would be, but if there was a large grocery store chain that had stores all throughout New England and it acquired this paper in another state and then distributed it to it's stores in this state intending to use them in their retail cash registers, would that prohibited by this law as it's currently written?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I think that would be a distribution and it's the sale and distribution that this bill is seeking to focus on and not the use. Because the user of this paper probably has no idea whether he or she is using a paper with a toxic chemical in it, but the manufacturer and distributor will know.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Then if I may just persist a little bit and clarify. So, distribution then as intended to be used in this is not necessarily a commercial transaction, it means just the physical relocation of the item, is that the intention?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yeah, I think it's the common sense of the word, through you, Madame President, of the distribution which could be a commercial but basically we're talking about this toxic paper being conveyed from one party to another party, whether it's commercial or otherwise.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Okay. Again, I just want to make sure that the law achieves what I think it's intending to achieve and I think there's some ambiguity with respect to this term distribute because again, you can have a very large retail operation that is in many states, acquires a product in a transaction, a commercial

transaction in New York, Massachusetts wherever, and then ships the material to it's stores in Connecticut and that's not a commercial transaction at that point, it's just a relocation of the physical product and at least the way I read the regulation and I'm not -- or the bill, I'm not a lawyer but I look and I think there's some very significant ambiguity in that term that might allow a large retail chain to circumvent the intention of the law, through you, Madame President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I think the word distribute as we use it in this bill, you've got to just take it at it's common sense meaning and that means moving this product somehow from the manufacturer to the wholesaler or the retailer. And, that movement is a distribution and we're trying to stop that kind of distribution in the State of Connecticut.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Okay. Begging your indulgence, through Ms. President, to the good Senator, I've heard you speak about this in two different ways. One is it's intended to be a sale from a wholesaler to someone else and then in another context it's spoken of as a relocation of the product and so here I am listening to it and I hear two different things and I'd like to make certain that as someone who is participating in voting on this bill that I understand clearly what is intended here.

It means one thing if the term distribute, if that means a commercial transaction has taken place between two parties, one who owns the product and the other one's going to acquire the product, or if it means someone already owns the product and is relocating it to facilities, multiple facilities in different geographic locations, I think that's a critical distinction and I'd like it to be very clear before we vote on this bill, if I may.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I think the essence of the term distribution here is a commercial

transaction and in the great -- in most instances the distribution will involve the conveyance of Bisphenol-A paper from the manufacturer to the wholesaler or from the wholesaler to the store. That's the common meaning here of distribution in this bill.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

So, therefore if I'm a large retail chain with operations throughout New England and I've acquired and own this paper in my Massachusetts location and I ship it down to here into Connecticut, that's not distribution according to the definition I think I just heard. Would that be a correct understanding, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

You know, I don't want to play, through you, Madame President, I don't want to play lawyer here on this one. I use the word distribution in the common sense term that it's the movement of paper that has a toxic chemical in it, whether that paper would be going from the manufacturer directly to the retailer

or from the wholesaler to the retailer or from one entity in Massachusetts to a retailer in Connecticut, that is a distribution and we're trying to avoid both the manufacture, the sale and the distribution of this toxic chemical.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you, Madame President and I will relent on that particular topic to much though I'm certain my colleagues relief. Let me pursue though if my colleague could tell me, through you, Madame President, the equipment that's used, that this paper is used in, is it all compatible with other types of thermal paper or will there be substantial machinage out there that will become useless to someone who owns it right now and is using this type of paper, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, as I said to Senator Welch, from personal observations the machine kicks out cash receipt papers seems to be able to

take, this is my personal observation, seems to be able to take other kinds of paper. So, I am giving you just a personal presumption and that is that this bill is not going to involve having to buy any new hardware, any new machine. You're just going to have to substitute safe paper for toxic paper.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you, Madame President and through you, now it's my understanding that the danger here, the health problem is with respect to people who are repeatedly exposed to the paper and therefore it's really targeted towards the commercial use of it. Many people in Connecticut have purchased fax machines for example, which use thermal paper and immediately after this session I'm going to schedule a doctors appointment because I had a thermal fax machine for years and so far my fingers haven't turned color yet, but it's not quite 20 years so we'll wait and see, but would this law pertain to some consumers who have fax machines that use thermal paper or is it intended to apply just to the heavy use that's normally associated with commercial usage, through you, Madame President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, I think the Section 1B which you read into the record here, is the operative language and it will apply to thermal receipt paper that contains Bisphenol-A. So, if you have receipt paper, it doesn't talk about fax machines, thermal fax machines, it talks about receipt paper because that's where the focus of the danger has been in here. And, if you have receipt paper that has Bisphenol-A by the fall of 2013, we're not going to be able to use it in Connecticut or sell it.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you, Madame President. And, again through you if I may, I feel so rude, looking at you and you're right next to me Senator, but I'm getting used to this protocol here at the Senate --

THE CHAIR:

Myself also.

SENATOR SUZIO:

So, would fax machine paper itself fall under the

definition of thermal receipt paper or is this intended to be like cash register receipts you mean?

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, this bill was not intended to reach anything other than cash receipt paper that contains Bisphenol-A. But you're giving us some ideas for amendments now.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Wait until you hear the next one. Through you, Madame President, one way of affecting transactions like this of course, is to prohibit them. Another way is to tax them. Was it ever discussed in terms of -- like we do for example, other products that are not healthy to use like cigarettes, let's say, was the idea of having a special tax which might be used to balance our budget, let's say, was that ever discussed with respect to in effect trying to curtail the use of this type of paper?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, taxes were never discussed by the Environment Committee.

SENATOR SUZIO:

May I suggest it might be referred to the Finance Committee?

SENATOR MEYER:

Oh no.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio. Let's get back in order here guys.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Thank you, Madame President. One last thing, again this refers to no person shall manufacture, sell or offer for sale or distribute thermal receipt paper, etc. So, I don't read into this, and I just want to make sure I understand it correctly, this does not prohibit the manufacture of the equipment itself that uses the thermal paper, through you, Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Through you, Madame President, that is correct.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:

Well, through you, Madame President, I want to thank my colleague for his patience with my questions and I enjoy the camaraderie with him and those are my questions. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further? Representative McLachlan -- Senator McLachlan, I'm sorry, excuse me.

SENATOR McLACHLAN:

Thank you, Madame President. Through you to Senator Meyer a few questions.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Madame President?

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Madame President, this item might be passed temporarily.

THE CHAIR:

Not seeing any objections, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madame President. If the next two items might be called would be -- first is Calendar

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Will you remark further on the bill as amended?

Senator Stillman.

SENATOR STILLMAN:

Yes. Thank you, Mr. President.

If there's no objection, I'd like to ask to place this on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Mr. President, calling from calendar page 41, Calendar 214, Bill Number -- Senate Bill Number 210 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER, committee reports on the Environment and General Law.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Thank you, Mr. President.

I move acceptance of the committee's joint and favorable report and move passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

On acceptance and passage, will you remark?

Opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Mr. President, if there's no objection, could this be added kindly to the consent calendar?

THE CHAIR:

If there's no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Mr. President, calling from page 24, Calendar Number 572, House Bill Number 6159, AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO ENVIRONMENT RELATED STATUTES, favorable report of the Environment Committee.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Mr. President, I respectfully move acceptance of the committee's joint and favorable report and passaged of the bill in conformity with the House and it's two amendments.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator.

will you call the tally.

THE CLERK:

Madam question -- Madam President --

THE CHAIR:

Whatever.

THE CLERK:

It's getting late. It's tomorrow.

The question is Senate Bill 1034.

Total Number voting	36
Necessary for adoption	19
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The bill is passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk might call the consent calendar items at this time.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Madam President, the following items were

previously placed on the consent calendar.

On page 24, Calendar Number 572, House Bill 6159; on page 41, Calendar 202, Senate Bill 1139; on page 41, Calendar 214, Senate Bill 210; on page 52, Calendar 294, Senate Bill 1104. That completes the items previously placed on consent.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, Mr. Clerk, since all the items are there, will you please call a roll call vote for the Consent Calendar Number 1 and the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the Senate. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

All members have voted. If all members about it -- oops, we are missing two. Sorry.

There you go.

Have all members voted?

Thank you, Senator.

If all members have voted, the machine will be

locked and the Clerk, Mr. Clerk, will you announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Madam President, total number voting on the 1st Consent Calendar.

Total Number voting	36
Necessary for adoption	19
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar has been adopted.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, would move immediate transmittal to the House of Representatives of all items acted upon in the Senate today requiring additional action by the House.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, that will conclude our