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HOUSE MEMORIAL 67

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO STUDY ANY HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS REGARDING
BISPHENOL A AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING LEGISLATIVE
ACTION.

WHEREAS, bisphenol A, also known as BPA, is an industrial
chemical that is used in many consumer products, including
reusable water bottles, children's toys, baby bottles, food and
beverage containers and epoxy resins; and

WHEREAS, according to recent studies by the national
toxicology program of the national institutes of health and the
United States food and drug administration, bisphenol A may
produce harmful effects on the brains, behavior and prostate
glands of fetuses, infants and young children; and

WHEREAS, a recent Kaiser Permanente study funded by the
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1 national institute of occupational safety and health found that
2 increased levels of bisphenol A may present a risk of reduced
3 sexual function in men as much as fifty times greater than the
4 average risk faced by American males; and

5 WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut and Minnesota have
6 banned the use of bisphenol A in food and beverage products for
7 young children, while many other states are considering similar
8 partial bans on the use of bisphenol A; and

9 WHEREAS, the state of California's environmental
10 protection agency has reported that it is adding bisphenol A to
11 the list of chemicals known to cause cancer or birth defects,
12 holding that the state considers it to be a reproductive toxin;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the government of Canada has banned the use of
15 bisphenol A for use in baby bottles; and

16 WHEREAS, bills have been introduced in the United States
17 congress to establish a ban on the use of bisphenol A in all
18 food and beverage containers; and

19 WHEREAS, makers of baby bottles such as Avent, Playtex and
20 Gerber agreed to stop using bisphenol A in the food and
21 beverage containers for children under the age of three years
22 old; and

23 WHEREAS, bisphenol A producer Sunoco, incorporated, has
24 restricted its sale of bisphenol A to any customers who will
25 use the chemical to make food or water containers for children

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1 under three years old; and

2 WHEREAS, retailers such as Toys "R" Us, incorporated, and
3 Walmart have removed products containing bisphenol A from their
4 stores;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department
7 of environment be requested to convene a task force made up of
8 experts in the areas of health and environment to study any
9 health and safety concerns that bisphenol A may present to New
10 Mexicans as a whole and, in particular, to young children; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
12 findings and recommendations for any legislative action
13 regarding bisphenol A to the appropriate interim legislative
14 committees by November 1, 2010; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of environment, the
17 chair of the legislative health and human services committee,
18 the chair of the water and natural resources committee and the
19 members of the New Mexico congressional delegation.

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