



**Testimony on behalf of the Northwest Grocery Association  
Before the House Energy and Environment Committee  
By Shawn Miller  
In OPPOSITION to House Bill 2495**

On behalf of the Northwest Grocery Association, I respectfully ask that you oppose House Bill 2495 which proposes to expand the scope of the Toxic Free Kids Act (TFKA) and increase the reporting obligation. This bill would make significant changes to the TFKA program at time when the current program has yet to be fully implemented and businesses that supply our retail products are still suffering the impacts of the pandemic.

The Toxic Free Kids Act (TFKA) was passed by the Legislature in 2015. Since that time, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has been working to develop the implementing regulations in three phases. Stakeholders have been active participants in OHA's rule making process but it is important to note that the rulemaking process has not yet been completed. OHA has completed Phase 1 and 2 of the rulemaking process and is currently in the process of completing Phase 3, arguably the most complicated for the regulated community to comply with and for OHA to implement.

With the program rules still pending, an assessment of the benefits or effectiveness of the program has not been conducted. HB 2495 is prematurely seeking to expand the program and increase the regulatory burdens for a program that is already extremely complex and goes beyond requirements of similar state, federal or international laws.

If HB 2495 is seeking to align with Washington State's "Safer Products for Washington" program, then it should also align with the scope and processes of that program which is entirely different than the current TFKA program.

Again, I respectfully ask that you oppose House Bill 2495 and thank you for your thoughtful consideration.