



To: House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
From: Julia DeGraw, Oregon Conservation Network, and Oregon League of Conservation Voters  
Date: 1/27/2023

**RE: SUPPORT of HB 3043, Toxic Free Kids Act Modernization**

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Levy and Levy, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on HB 3043. On behalf of our thousands of members and supporters in Oregon, we would like to register the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, and the Oregon Conservation Network's strong support to pass HB 3043, the Toxic Free Kids Act Modernization Bill. HB 3043 is part of the Toxic Free Bill Package which is one of OCN's 2023 Priorities for a Healthy Oregon.

The Oregon Conservation Network (OCN) is coordinated through the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV). OCN is a coalition of 42 not-for-profit organizations throughout the state, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy. OCN is powered by tens of thousands of Oregonians who belong to their membership organizations. We work to promote policies that will ensure a better Oregon for our children – and to fight policies that do not.

HB 2495 (now HB 3043) was Bipartisan, and passed the House in 2021, 47-8. HB 3043 is unfinished business from 2021, which is why OLCV has made it an OCN priority within our "Toxics-free package."

It has now been eight years since the Bipartisan Toxic Free Kids Act (TFKA) was passed. This law made Oregon a leader in environmental health protections and a thought leader in children's health. Rulemaking has concluded, and all of TFKA's rules are final and fully implementable, and they have been "fully baked." The last phase of TFKA rulemaking ended and became effective in [March 2021](#) after COVID delays. In [December 2021](#), industry manufacturers filed a lawsuit against the final rules, and they lost in [federal court](#).

Additionally, OLCV supported the important Bipartisan work done in 2021 to fully and adequately address manufacturers' concerns, including making a number of compromises to benefit them, such as giving them a way to use an individual chemical, if it is shown to be less harmful than the rest of its class.

The Toxic Free Kids Act was always about science and transparency and using both to protect the health of Oregonians. We have always supported requiring major product manufacturers to



disclose harmful substances in their products and to ultimately phase them out—which means keeping up with scientific developments and changes, which HB 3043 does.

I urge you to protect Oregon’s children from dangerous chemicals and keep the momentum of Oregon’s leadership going with the passage of HB 3043.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia B. DeGraw".

Julia B. DeGraw

Coalition Director

Oregon Conservation Network, and Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Testimony Submitted On behalf of all the OCN Member Organizations:

1000 Friends of Oregon, Association of Oregon Recyclers, Audubon Society of Portland, Beyond Toxics, Cascadia Wildlands, Center for Biological Diversity, Center for Food Safety, Central Oregon LandWatch, Climate Solutions, Defenders of Wildlife, Deschutes River Alliance, Engineers for a Sustainable Future, The Environmental Center, Environment Oregon, Food & Water Watch, Friends of Mount Hood, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Friends of Family Farmers, Greater Hells Canyon Council, League of Women Voters of Oregon, Native Fish Society, Neighbors for Clean Air, Oceana, Oregon Coast Alliance, Oregon Environmental Council, Oregon Land and Water Alliance, Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Oregon Wild, Pew Charitable Trusts, Renewable Northwest, Rogue Riverkeeper, Sierra Club Oregon Chapter, The Street Trust, Surfrider Foundation, Trout Unlimited, Tualatin Riverkeepers, WaterWatch of Oregon, The Wetlands Conservancy, Wild Salmon Center, Zero Coalition