

Submitter: Jennifer Eisele

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB546

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and, members of the Committee,

I urge you to support SB 546. I believe most people assume personal and beauty products are safe. However, the products we use every day, such as lotions, shaving creams, deodorants, and make-up, contain many chemicals that are known to be hazardous to our health.

I am Western Shoshone and Northern Paiute. Native communities, along with other people of color and low income communities are disproportionately affected by toxic burdens which can lead to skin problems, hair loss and overall poor health. We should not have to be burdened with toxic substances in cosmetic and hygiene products should we not be able to source from high end retailers.

SB 546 will require the public disclosure of all chemical ingredients on a company's product webpage. Doing so is an accessible way for consumers to make educated purchasing decisions. Additionally, it will ban the sale of the worst chemicals in cosmetics and personal care products like many other states have.

SB 546 would regulate or prohibit the sale of the worst classes of chemicals in personal care products like formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers, mercury, and lead.

They are a threat to pregnant women and children, as the chemicals can be absorbed into the skin and into the unborn fetus in utero and can cause developmental harm.

Deadly ingredients like formaldehyde in hair straighteners and mercury in skin lighteners illustrate both economic and environmental justice issues. These ingredients are in cheaper products marketed to lower-income communities, and these ingredients are in products marketed towards women of color.

Oregon must join the 7 states that are considering cosmetics bills this session and the six that have already passed some cosmetics safety laws. Please vote 'Yes' on SB 546 ---this is a public health and environmental justice issue.