

Submitter: Kirsten Barquist

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3512

PFAS chemicals are another bad leftover from the "better living through chemistry" era. Now that the harm and persistence of PFAS chemicals is known, preventing more of them from entering the environment is the smart and morally correct thing to do.

I am particularly concerned about Oregon becoming a dumping ground for PFAS-containing products that have been banned in other states. We need legal protection at least on par with the most stringent bans in place in other states.

Recently I had draperies made for one of the bedrooms in my home. After they were paid for and installed, the provider mentioned that the fabric had fire retardant applied to it. She did not know what the fire retardant is made of, but it has a very high probability of including PFAS chemicals. I was horrified by this! Had I been informed before buying, I would have made another choice such as buying from Ikea.

None of us should have to worry about unknowingly bringing harmful substances into our home. With a PFAS ban in place, we can spend money in Oregon to furnish/decorate our homes with one less "gotcha" to worry about.

If this ban is not retro-active to apply to products already manufactured and available for sale in Oregon, then include a clause requiring disclosure of the presence of PFAS substances in the item (such as my new draperies) so consumers can make an informed choice.

Thank you for your consideration.