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Maine People's Resource Center
ORGANIZING FOR A BETTER MAINE



Maine Women's Policy Center
THE VOICE OF MAINE WOMEN

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Alliance for a
Clean and Healthy Maine

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Voters Education Fund**
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What does your shopping list have to do with brain development?



We can't shop our way out of the problem.

Maine children and adults are exposed daily to toxic chemicals in consumer products. When it comes to getting good information about dangerous chemicals, parents, consumers, and even retailers are left in the dark. Chemical companies are not required to adequately test for health and safety effects, and manufacturers are not required to list the chemical components of their products. Many of these chemicals have gotten into our bodies, our breast milk, and our children. Some of these chemicals are linked to cancer, birth defects, and other health problems that are on the rise in the human population. These diseases place a tremendous burden on families.



When I brought my son home from the hospital, there was a lot I didn't know. I didn't know that toxic chemicals are in shampoo, bottles, and teethingers. I didn't know how hard it would be to find out if a product is toxic to my child.

— Elisa Boxer, Scarborough, Maine



WHAT POLICY MAKERS CAN DO

We can't shop our way out of this problem.

Maine lawmakers must advance system-wide solutions that will prevent harm and protect Maine people from exposure to toxic chemicals at home, at school, and at the dinner table. As a candidate for public office, you can help speed efforts to replace these dangerous chemicals with safer alternatives and expand consumer information when toxic chemicals are added to the products we buy.

Replacing toxic chemicals with safer alternatives allows families to thrive.

According to the National Research Council, no health and safety information is available for more than 80% of the chemicals in everyday products.

Of those chemicals that have been tested, 150 commonly found in homes have been linked to allergies, birth defects, cancer, and psychological abnormalities.

For more information, please visit
www.cleanandhealthyme.org