

# Dr. LaShae Sharp- Collins

## 79<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



### AB 1148: Safer Food Packaging Act

#### **SUMMARY**

AB 1148 will ban three hazardous chemicals or classes of chemicals known to cause breast cancer from being used in food packaging: Phthalates, Bisphenols and Antimony Trioxide.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Thousands of chemicals are used to make the materials that come into contact with our food and beverages. Chemicals from these materials can migrate into the food and our bodies, and some of these chemicals have been linked to negative health impacts ranging from allergic reactions to asthma, obesity, diabetes, male and female reproductive problems including infertility and decreased testosterone, learning disabilities, cardiovascular disease and increased risk of breast cancer.

Current federal law already prohibits a chemical from being approved by the FDA for use in food if it is found to induce cancer when ingested by people or animals. Despite this prohibition, chemicals that contribute to cancer risk, including through hormone disruption, continue to be used in materials that contact food and beverages. These chemicals can migrate into our food and then into people.

They then contribute to increased risk of breast and other cancers, male and female reproductive problems (including sperm and prostrate problems, fibroids and polycystic ovarian syndrome, and even prematurely mature children into puberty), learning disabilities, behavioral issues, developmental issues, decreased fertility, obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease.

California must act to reduce exposures through food to the same harmful chemicals that our state has already banned in other product categories. For instance, California banned phthalates from cosmetics in 2020, from IVs in 2024, and from toys and children's products in 2006. Soluble antimony was banned from children's toys in 2008 and last year the state expanded its ban on bisphenol-A in baby bottles to include all bisphenols in children's drinkware.

#### **THIS BILL**

The Safer Food Packaging Act prohibits entities from distributing, selling or offering for sale any food packaging that contains Bisphenols, Ortho-phthalates, or Antimony Trioxide. This ban would go into effect on January 1, 2027, and applies to food and beverage containers, including: take-out food containers, unit product boxes, liners and wrappers, serving vessels, utensils and straws, food boxes, disposable plates, bowls, or trays.

The bill allows for civil enforcement by the Attorney General or local district attorneys, should these chemicals be found in food packaging.

#### **SUPPORT**

Breast Cancer Prevention Partners (Co-Sponsor)  
Environmental Working Group (Co-Sponsor)  
Cal PIRG (Co-Sponsor)

#### **CONTACT**

Taylor Valmores ♦ Legislative Director  
(916) 319-2079 ♦ [Taylor.Valmores@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Taylor.Valmores@asm.ca.gov)

**CAPITOL OFFICE**  
SWING SPACE, ROOM 4130  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL: 916.319.2079  
FAX: 916.319.2179

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
4700 SPRING STREET, SUITE 301  
LA MESA, CA 91942  
TEL: 619.456.7903  
FAX: 619.465.7909