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**MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP**

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

*****This form is a public record*****

MEETING DATE: October 18th, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposed Ban on Bisphenol A

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: B1

FOR: X **AGAINST:** **THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM**

NAME: Diane Lund

ADDRESS: 7421 SE 30th

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR 97202

PHONE: DAYS 503-869-7225 **EVES:** 503-774-4200
EMAIL: muzikant@aol.com **FAX:**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY (In lieu of attendance)

I will submit my public testimony in person

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

1. Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk.
2. Address the County Commissioners from the presenter table microphones. Please limit your comments to **3 minutes**.
3. State your name for the official record.
4. If written documentation is presented, please furnish one copy to the Board Clerk.

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October 18, 2011

I'm Diane Lund and I'm here today on behalf of Rachel's Friends Breast Cancer Coalition, an advocacy organization based in Portland that's dedicated to reducing our exposure to environmental carcinogens such as Bishphenol A.

I urge you to enact a countywide ban on Bishphenol A, which is a known hormone-disrupting chemical – a synthetic estrogen – that's been linked to breast cancer and other serious health problems. It needs to be taken out of baby bottles, sippy cups and reusable containers such as water bottles.

More than 200 scientific studies show that BPA exposure is associated with a wide range of adverse health effects, including breast and prostate cancer, birth defects, infertility in men, early puberty in girls, diabetes and obesity

As a 15-year breast cancer survivor, I'm very concerned about the growing incidence of breast cancer – particularly among younger women – in their 20s and 30s.

Today, a woman's chance of developing breast cancer is 1 in 8 during their lifetime.

And, according to the latest statistics, 207,000 women were expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer last year, along with 54,000 cases of non-invasive breast cancer, and 39,000 women were expected to die from this disease.

We also know that of those women who are diagnosed, 70-80 percent have no known family history of the disease.

It's time to start focusing our attention on prevention and reducing the incidence of breast cancer.

Breast cancer is a gut-wrenching disease – the treatment – the chemotherapy poisons that run through our veins -- do havoc to our immune system, while the surgery we're forced to endure -- robs us of our dignity.

We need to start protecting our families by focusing our attention on the prevention of breast cancer -- which affects more women than any other type of cancer and is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women.

Banning Bishphenol A is a step in that direction. By taking such action, Multnomah County will also be seen as a leader in Oregon and can set the path for other counties throughout the state to follow your action.

Thank you for the opportunity.

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MEETING DATE: October 27th, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposed Ban on Bisphenol A

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: R5

FOR: X AGAINST: THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Meredith Shield

ADDRESS: 3621 SE Division St Apt 7

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97202

PHONE: DAYS: 971-221-3201

EVES: same

EMAIL: Meredith@olcv.org

FAX:

WRITTEN TESTIMONY (In lieu of attendance)

I will submit my public testimony in person

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**MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP**

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk
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MEETING DATE: 10/18/11

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of a ban of BPA from baby bottles, sippy cups and reusable water bottles

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: Board Briefing on Proposed Board of Health Action to Address Bisphenol-A (BPA)

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Andrea Paluso, Family Forward Oregon and The Mother PAC

ADDRESS: 3115 NE 47th Ave

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503.284.6482

EVES: _____

EMAIL: andrea.paluso@gmail.com

FAX: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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CHANGE IS POSSIBLE. CHANGE IS HAPPENING.

**Testimony before the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners
Andrea Paluso, Family Forward Oregon, The Mother PAC
October 18, 2011**

Chair Cogen and Commissioners,

I am the Executive Director for Family Forward Oregon and The Mother PAC. I am also a mother to two children under 6 years of age. It is in my capacity as a mother and a family advocate that I am testifying before you today.

My children were almost certainly born with Bisphenol-A (BPA) in their bodies. After all, it is estimated that 93% of Americans have BPA accumulating in our bodies, and I'm guessing my pregnant body was no exception. Their bodies were likely further contaminated by drinking from tainted polycarbonate baby bottles and sippy cups and by eating canned foods. This means they were contaminated by things I fed them, before I knew that I needed to be concerned about the safety of my children's food containers.

Our toxics laws have failed them, and failed me as a parent whose highest purpose is the health and safety of my children.

Mounting evidence, including hundreds of peer-reviewed studies, show the harmful effects of exposure to endocrine-disrupting Bisphenol-A (BPA), a substance that was originally proposed as an estrogen-replacement therapy due to its estrogenic effects, and subsequently added to plastics without any testing for ill effects. I have no other way to describe what happened when I learned about BPA, its use in children's products, and its harmful effect on children's health except to say that I became very angry. Angry that I unwittingly exposed my children. Angry that my government did not act to protect them.

There are people who will tell you that the market will solve this problem. Parents will learn about the harmful effects of exposing their children to BPA and they will stop buying products that contain it. As you might imagine, identifying what does and doesn't contain BPA is no easy feat. I struggle with this despite having two Masters degrees, many options for places to shop and ready access to online resources. You can bet there are parents across the county unwittingly exposing their kids to BPA *right now* because they do not know about its harmful effects, or because they find it impossible to understand information that is written for toxicologists and not the rest of us. Others may be struggling to find stores in their area that carry BPA-free products – because not all parents have access to an array of purchasing options.

The rest of the argument is that industry, as a result of public pressure, will stop manufacturing products that contain BPA. And it's true, we are now seeing industry provide alternatives that are labeled BPA-free. However, without clear standards about what the term BPA-free means, how can



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**Testimony before the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners
Andrea Paluso, Family Forward Oregon, The Mother PAC
October 18, 2011**

we be sure that industry is actually compliant? Or that their idea of BPA-free matches ours? How can we be sure that these products do not now contain another equally harmful chemical in place of BPA?

Without standards, like the one being proposed here today, consumers are without the critical information they need when purchasing food containers for their children. Without standards we are left to just trust industry, something that has become increasingly difficult to do. Mothers like me are witnessing countless news reports about products – intended for children – being unsafe for use by children. We are no longer sure where to turn for trusted information about product safety – and we are increasingly frustrated that no one is protecting our children’s health against the profit-making-at-all-cost motives of corporations who produce goods for them.

In the end, the only way to protect our kids is to ban the use of harmful chemicals in their products. Period.

Current federal toxics laws are grossly inadequate, putting the onus of proving the negative health impact of a product or chemical on consumers - and only after a product has already been introduced into the marketplace. To say that proving causation is nearly impossible for consumers to do is an understatement, and during the time it takes for us to make our case, millions more children are being exposed to something that should have been tested for safety in use by children in the first place.

Fortunately for those of us who are here today, the case with BPA has already been made. Food containers made with BPA leach the substance into our food and beverages. BPA has known endocrine-disrupting effects. It is unsafe for use in food containers, particularly for children, whose developing brains and bodies make them much more vulnerable to the negative effects of BPA exposure.

The number of states and counties banning the use of BPA in children’s food containers is growing monthly. We see a clear indication that action of this kind will need to be taken at the local-level. We are relying on the members of this body to act to protect our children today.

I urge you to support a proposal banning BPA in baby bottles, sippy cups and reusable drink containers. This is a good first step in protecting our children from this substance. Thank you.

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X

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MEETING DATE: 10/18/11

SUBJECT: BPA

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: BPA

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: RAQUEL BOURNITONESQUE

ADDRESS: 240 N. BROADWAY SUITE 215

CITY/STATE/ZIP: PORTLAND, OR 97227

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503 704 8332 EVES: 503.704.8332

EMAIL: raquel@upstreampublichealth.org FAX: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: Oct 18

SUBJECT: BPA ban

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: ✓ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Susan Beal

ADDRESS: 3131 SE Woodward

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR 97202

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-358-9812 EVES: _____

EMAIL: Susan.beal@gmail.com FAX: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: As a mother I am strongly in favor of a ban on BPA in food + drink products + containers and receipts. We understand toxins so much better now + should respond immediately for public health.

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MEETING DATE: 8/

SUBJECT: Ban on bisphenol A

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: JENNIFER COLEMAN

ADDRESS: 7657 SE STEPHENS

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR, 97215

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503 222 1963 EVES: 718 781 6584

EMAIL: JENCO@oeconline.org FAX: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: As a health advocate who educates
parents and caregivers, I have experience
looking for bottles and sippy cups on the
shelves in Multnomah County from 2009-2011.
I have personally found BPA-containing products
in multiple Multnomah County stores
during that time period.

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AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: B1

FOR: X AGAINST: THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Mary Peveto

ADDRESS: 2882 NW Thurman St

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97210

PHONE: DAYS: 503-477-8109 EVES:

EMAIL: marypeveto@mac.com FAX:

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MEETING DATE: 10/18/11

SUBJECT: BPA

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: ✓ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Carl Schnoor

ADDRESS: 6219 NE Sacramento

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR 97213

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503 789-0228 EVES: _____

EMAIL: carlschnoor FAX: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Dr. W.G Hardy – Pastor Highland Christian Center

ADDRESS: 7600 NE Glisan St.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR. 97213

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503.287.9567 EVES: _____

EMAIL: ph@hcclive.com FAX: _____

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