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Testimony in Support of SB 478
March 2, 2015
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

OR Commission for Women

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Lucy Baker, Administrator
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Chair Edwards, Vice Chair Olsen, and Senators Dembrow, Prozanski and Thomsen:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning SB 478 directing OHA to compile and monitor a list of harmful chemicals to children and directing vendors of products using such chemicals to disclose that information to OHA as well as phase out such products over a course of years.

The members of the Oregon Commission for Women strongly support passage of SB 478. When an informed citizenry can avoid known health risks for their families we are all better off. Children are most sensitive to chemicals in their immediate environment, including industrial chemicals, over 60 of which the EPA has linked to cancer or to neurological effects. We appreciate the work of the committee supporting informed families around chemicals and kids, and with corporations wishing to sell safe necessities to Oregon families. Those are the vendors and products Oregon's families want to patronize.

This legislation makes good sense for assuring that we all know what chemicals are in our children's environments and making informed healthy choices.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Vardavas

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair, Oregon Commission for Women