



SUPPORT

S. 99/A. 4459 (Kaminsky/Gunther)

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of cosmetics or cleaning products containing 1,4-Dioxane

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports S. 99/A. 4459 (Kaminsky/Gunther), which would prohibit the sale of 1,4 Dioxane, a chemical that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has identified as a "likely carcinogen to humans."

While research shows that 1,4 Dioxane is a carcinogenic chemical that poses a long term risk to environmental and public health, it is currently not regulated on a national level. The chemical is used in many cosmetics, detergents, deodorants, shampoos and baby shampoos, and it can contaminate local water systems when those products go down the drain. Many municipalities in New York have elevated levels of 1,4 Dioxane, especially in Long Island, which has the highest levels in the country. The problem in Long Island is particularly severe because the Island's drinking water comes from groundwater sources that are susceptible to such contamination, as many sewage treatment systems are not designed to treat the chemical. One source in Hicksville reported levels at nearly ten times the EPA's guideline for safe drinking water.

This bill would amend the Environmental Conservation Law to ban the sale of products containing 1,4 Dioxane, preventing the carcinogenic chemical from being used by New Yorkers every day, and going down drains and contaminating groundwater.

For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of S. 99/A. 4459.

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