

# S.25 Testimony



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# Years of inaction

https://www.nytimes.com > Well > Live

## Many Personal Care Products Contain Harmful Chemicals ...

Feb 15, 2023 - Researchers have found dangerous levels of mercury in skin lightening and anti-aging creams; they've linked chemicals in hair dyes and ...

https://www.nytimes.com > cosmetics-safety-makeup

## Do You Know What's in Your Cosmetics? - The New York Times

Feb 9, 2019 — Independent researchers have found asbestos in glittery products marketed to young girls; they've linked chemicals in nail polish to serious ...

https://www.nytimes.com > 2007/02/15 > fashion

Should You Trust Your Makeup? - The New York Times Feb 15, 2007 — The chemicals that must be reported to health officials under the California law include lead acetate, found in some hair dyes; formaldehyde, ...

https://www.nytimes.com > roomfordebate > 2014/02/07

## CVS Should Get Rid of Toxic Cosmetics - NYTimes.com

Feb 7, 2014 — This should include chemicals linked to cancer such as formaldehyde found in shampoos and body wash; coal tar, lead acetate, hydroquinone and ...

https://www.nytimes.com > fashion > thursdaystyles > sho...

### Should You Worry About the Chemicals in Your Makeup?

Jul 7, 2005 — The Food and Drug Administration has found no risk from using makeup containing phthalates, a spokeswoman said. Not surprisingly, the cosmetics ...



# No Federal Oversight

## **Cosmetics:**

- No FDA requirement for safety testing
- No FDA approval process for cosmetics
- States are in the lead

No oversight for an \$84 billion industry.





# US is falling behind

## The EU bans nearly **2,500 chemicals** in cosmetics

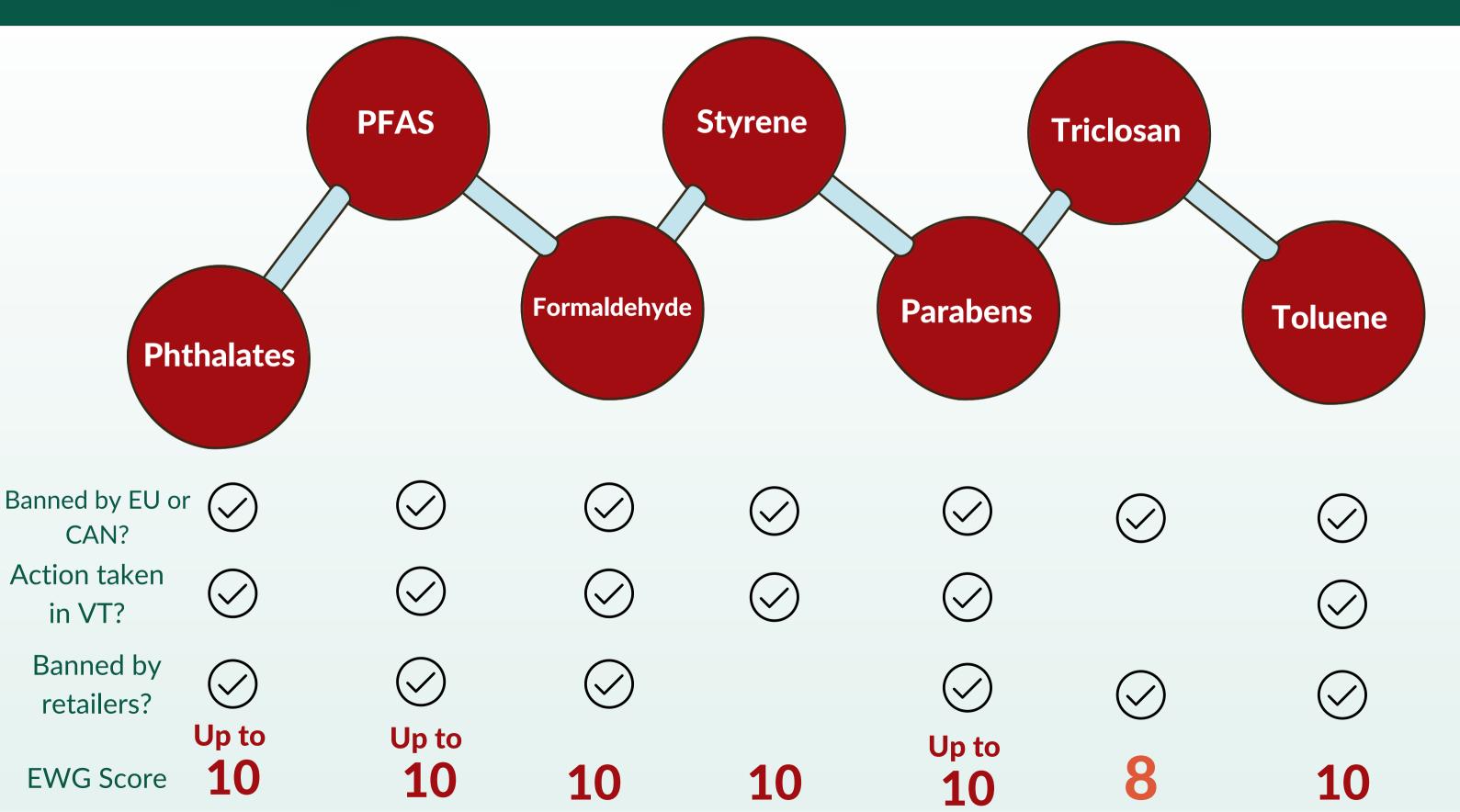


## Canada bans over 500, and restricts many more

## The FDA only bans 11.



## 10,000+ Chemicals







Forever chemicals recently **banned in VT** in some consumer products

Unlabeled PFAS found in *roughly* half of foundations, lip products, and mascara



# Phthalates

## Phthalates are highly toxic to reproductive systems

The New Hork Times

## What Are Sperm Telling Us?

Scientists are concerned by falling sperm counts and declining egg quality. Endocrine-disrupting chemicals may be the problem.

Feb. 20, 2021



## Fragrance chemicals are toxic, with no disclosure requirement

**B** 





## Highly toxic, and often unintentionally added



• Found in sunscreen, foundation, nail polish, lipstick, whitening toothpaste and more





# Formaldehyde

- Found in 26 out of 30
  body lotions tested
- Found in nail polish, body wash, hair
   products, makeup
- Known carcinogen

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## Market Trends and State Laws



## Many major retailers ban or restrict these chemicals in products, while others continue to sell them



cosmetics

**NEWS + OPINION » POLITICS** 

## **Burlington Beauty Company Ogee Plans Expansion**

By ANNE WALLACE ALLEN 🚺 @ANNEWALLALLEN

Published November 22, 2022 at 1:51 p.m.

MONEY

Vermont?

## CA and MD enacted laws banning 24 chemicals in

## Is skin care the next big business for

### **Dan D'Ambrosio, Free Press Staff Writer**

Published 4:05 a.m. ET May 4, 2017 | Updated 3:29 p.m. ET March 11, 2020







### All the good stuff:

- Certified Organic Aloe Vera & Sunflower C helps to restore, heal and promote healthy skin Honey
- antibacterial, moisturizing & nutritive Hyaluronic acid
- powerful hydrator that smooths & softens

- one of the bad stuff:
- Paraben-free, No Propylene glycol, Glut free, No drying alcohol, No dyes or pigm o mineral oil. No EDTA. Phthalat agrance. No animal testing









# Justice

## Vermonters of color are exposed to these toxins more frequently.



Toxic products like hair dyes, relaxers/straighteners and skin lighteners are *heavily marketed* towards femme/women POC

Formaldehyde in hair straightening products linked to higher cancer rates in Black women.





# Thank You

## Questions? Marcie Gallagher PIRG mgallagher@vpirg.org

