

King County  
Solid Waste  
Division

King County  
Water & Land  
Resources  
Division

Public Health  
Seattle &  
King County

Seattle Public  
Utilities

Suburban Cities  
Association

*Participating  
Cities:*

*Algona  
Auburn  
Beaux Arts  
Bellevue  
Black Diamond  
Bothell  
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Clyde Hill  
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Des Moines  
Duvall  
Enumclaw  
Federal Way  
Hunts Point  
Issaquah  
Kenmore  
Kent  
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Lake Forest Park  
Maple Valley  
Medina  
Mercer Island  
Newcastle  
Normandy Park  
North Bend  
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Sammamish  
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Snoqualmie  
Tukwila  
Woodinville  
Yarrow Point*



## Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, Washington

February 3, 2009

Honorable Karen Keiser, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care  
Washington State Senate  
466 J.A. Cherberg Building  
P.O. Box 40466  
Olympia, WA 98504-0466

RE: SB 5282, An ACT relating to the use of bisphenol-A

Chair Keiser:

I am writing on behalf of the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County (Program) to support SB 5282, which addresses the chemical bisphenol-A (BPA) in food and beverage containers. We are fully supportive of this bill's effort to address BPA but would like to articulate our Program's interest in this issue in more detail.

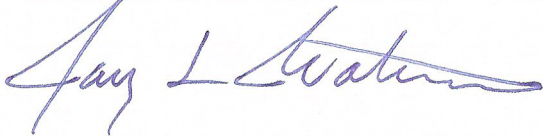
First, we are concerned about bisphenol-A because it has been identified as an endocrine disruptor that may produce diverse detrimental effects at low exposure levels, and because not enough is known about its toxicity in instances where it can leach into beverages and food products. Secondly, our Program has a particular emphasis on protecting vulnerable and traditionally underserved populations from exposure to toxic chemicals. We believe that infants, children, pregnant mothers and women of childbearing age are particularly susceptible to bisphenol-A related health impacts.

In general, we believe that more intensive, independently funded and peer-reviewed studies must be undertaken to fully characterize this chemical and its potential negative impacts to human health and the environment. We also believe that sufficient doubt exists about bisphenol-A's safety that acting precautionarily, by banning its use in food and beverage containers for infants and young children, is a prudent immediate action. We are also supportive of the reasonable process put forward in this bill to utilize alternatives assessment to identify other safer product substitutes for food and beverage containers.

Our Program is supportive of this bill as a continuation of the momentum that is taking place across this country to address potentially harmful chemicals in consumer products, particularly bisphenol-A. And we believe that this bill will bring the issue of the hazards of bisphenol-A to the forefront of chemical action in Washington State.

If you have questions, or need more information about our concerns, please feel free to contact me at (206) 240-5977 or at [jay.watson@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jay.watson@kingcounty.gov). Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay L. Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being the most prominent.

Jay L. Watson, PhD  
Administrator

cc     Senator Rosa Franklin, Vice Chair  
       Senator Cheryl Pflug  
       Senator Randi Becker  
       Senator Darlene Fairley  
       Senator Chris Marr  
       Senator Ed Murray  
       Senator Linda Evans Parlette  
       Rhonda Donkin, Committee Coordinator/Analyst