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## **Toy Store Owners to Sen. George: Help Keep Our Products Safe** Leading Michigan Toy Retailers Call for Passage of Children's Safe Products Act

Ann Arbor, MI: Twenty of Michigan's independent toy retailers and manufacturers joined thousands of parents and a coalition of some of the state's leading medical, health, health-affected and environmental organizations to call for immediate passage of the Michigan Children's Safe Products Act (4763-69). These bills – which ensure that parents and all consumers have the right-to-know whether the most toxic chemicals are in children's products – have been awaiting action in Senator Tom George's Health Policy Committee since passing the Michigan House in May.

The letter to Senator George from the Toy Stores reads, in part: "As retailers and small manufacturers that provide high quality children's products, we strongly support a system of ensuring that large toy manufacturers disclose their use of the 'worst of the worst' chemicals... We should have a right to know about whether children's products we are selling have the most toxic chemicals. Parents deserve this right as well... We are pleased that legislators and children's health advocates in Michigan have crafted bills that protect children while protecting and enhancing our own business prospects. Please support Michigan retailers and small US toy manufactures as well as our customers – Michigan's children – by supporting and passing the Children's Safe Products Act."

Given the frequency of toxic toy recalls, the lack of a comprehensive federal policy framework to protect us from toxic chemicals, and the emerging data on the number of toxic chemicals present in children's bodies, passage of this legislation this holiday season is urgent.

"Passage of the Children's Safe Products Act through the Senate would provide a much-needed holiday gift of increased safety for Michigan's children," stated Mike Shriberg, Ph.D., Policy Director for the Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health and the Ecology Center. "Adding the voices of small business owners to the chorus of medical and health experts, environmental and mental health advocates, and thousands of Michigan parents and grandparents should provide Senator Tom George with all the motivation he needs to help protect Michigan's children from toxic toys this holiday season."

The full text and list of signatories, as well as more information about the legislation, can be found at: <http://www.mnceh.org/campaigns.lead.php>.



Michigan Network for  
**CHILDREN'S**  
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**HEALTH**

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The Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health is a coalition of health professionals, health-affected groups, environmental organizations, and others dedicated to a safe and less toxic world for Michigan's children. Through education, outreach, and advocacy, we work to change current policies and practices that result in exposure of children to environmental toxicants.

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**Network Members:** American Academy of Pediatrics (Michigan Chapter) • Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) • Association for Children's Mental Health • Autism Society of Michigan • Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination • Clean Water Fund • Clinton County Family Resource Center • Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice • East Michigan Environmental Action Council • Ecology Center • Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan • Learning Disabilities Association (LDA) of Michigan • Local Motion • Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners • Michigan Coalition for Children and Families • Michigan Environmental Council • Michigan League of Conservation Voters Education Fund • Michigan Nurses Association • Science and Environmental Health Network • Voices for Earth Justice