



Monica Robb Blasdel

State Representative

79th House District

RE: House Bill 272 – Sponsor Testimony

Good afternoon, Chair Ray, Vice-Chair LaRe, Ranking Member Brent, and members of the House General Government Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today with my Joint Sponsor Representative Pizzulli on House Bill 272.

As a mom of two young girls, I think about what they eat, what they wear, and what they touch - every single day. I read labels. I try to do everything right. But how can I protect them when dangerous chemicals are hiding in products with no warning at all? This bill gives parents like me a fighting chance to make safer choices - because no mom should have to be a chemist to keep her kids safe.

The hardest part of being a parent today is the things you can't see. My daughter's shampoo might have endocrine disruptors, food coloring might affect her behavior, and I would have no way of knowing. We aren't asking for perfection - we're asking for transparency, for common-sense limits, and for a future where our kids aren't part of a chemical experiment.

We spend millions of dollars trying to improve academic outcomes, but if kids are eating dyes that disrupt focus, or drinking water with chemicals linked to developmental delays, how far can we really get? This bill is about creating the conditions where kids can thrive.

I trust my local school board. I trust my local hospital. Why shouldn't I trust my local community to decide what goes in our drinking water? This bill doesn't ban fluoride - it just says our towns should have a say. As a parent, I want a government that listens to people, not one that forces medical decisions on everyone from the top down.

I would like to thank Rep. Pizzulli for the passion and expertise he has brought to this legislative effort, and you all, for your time today. With that, we would be happy to answer questions from the Committee.