



STATEMENT OF THE PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS COUNCIL
before the
Maryland House of Delegates
Health and Government Operations Committee
February 16, 2021
Position: **FAVORABLE**

Chair Pendergrass and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee:

The members of the Personal Care Products Council (PCPC)¹ support House Bill 643 with the sponsor amendment included. This legislation will align Maryland law with an identical 2020 California law, which prohibits the sale and manufacture of cosmetics and personal care products with certain ingredients in California and was adopted on bi-partisan basis with overwhelming support. For the first time, groups like PCPC, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) and a diverse group of stakeholders worked together to support legislation to modernize the rules governing cosmetics and personal care products, products we all rely on every day.

House Bill 643 would move the industry one step closer to global regulatory alignment. House Bill 643 is good news for consumers, who should not have to worry about the presence of these ingredients, and good news for manufacturers, who will benefit from greater harmony among global rules – without added costs to the state of Maryland, its consumers, retailers or manufacturers, many of whom call Maryland home.

By working together, we will help Maryland keep pace with other regulators around the nation and around the globe and provide consumers greater assurance of the safety of the consumer products they use every day, like lotion and body wash, toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, and makeup.

Marylanders deserve a law that provides consumers with continued confidence in the products they use and trust every day. This bill helps protect public health in Maryland while safeguarding the jobs of the more than the 45,000 Marylanders who work for the overall personal care industry and the more than \$2 billion contributed to the state's economy.

House Bill 643 is a responsible solution and deserves your bipartisan support. I ask for a favorable report with the sponsor amendment included.

Mike Thompson
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs

¹ PCPC is the leading national trade association representing the global cosmetic and personal care products industry. Founded in 1894, PCPC's 600 member companies manufacture, distribute and supply the vast majority of finished personal care products marketed in the U.S. As the makers of a diverse range of products millions of consumers rely on every day, from sunscreens, toothpaste and shampoo to moisturizer, makeup and fragrance, personal care products companies are global leaders committed to product safety, quality and innovation.