



Informational Statement HB643
Public Health - Cosmetic Products - Ingredient Prohibition
By Laura Bogley, JD
Director of Legislation, Maryland Right to Life

On behalf of our members across the state, we applaud the intentions of the sponsor to protect consumers from the use of harmful ingredients in cosmetic products. We respectfully ask the sponsor and Committee members to consider adding to the list of prohibited cosmetic ingredients, any ingredient containing or derived from human embryonic or fetal tissue obtained through abortion. Such ingredients include human embryonic/fetal collagen and Processed Skin Cell Proteins (PSP's) among others.

We strongly oppose any policy that allows the procurement of and research on human embryonic or fetal tissue obtained through the brutality of abortion. While no disease has been cured as a result of unnecessary use of human fetal tissue, this research artificially increases the demand for aborted babies and especially late-term aborted babies. See more about this research [HERE](#).

Humane Disposal of Human Remains - In the case of abortion, we oppose any and all uses of aborted human embryonic and fetal remains, whether for public or commercial purposes, and support only the humane disposition of human embryonic and fetal remains by cremation or burial. The use of aborted human tissue for use in cosmetics or food products can never be ethical and must be prohibited by law. The state should reject any suggestion that aborted human tissue is an acceptable alternative to harmful chemicals in cosmetic or commercial purposes, or as an alternative to animal testing. In all cases, whether through miscarriage or abortion, we believe the mother must first make an affirmative anatomical gift of her unborn child's remains only after she has given fully informed consent as to the options for humane disposition or the intended public or commercial use of her unborn child's remains. In no case do we believe an aborted human being should suffer the indignities of being used for cosmetic or food production testing.

No public funding for abortions - Human fetal and embryonic tissue harvesting and research creates an artificial demand for aborted babies. Use of aborted tissue by the cosmetics industry is another financial "pass-through" to the abortion industry. State funding for abortion on demand with taxpayer funds is in direct conflict with the will of the people. A 2020 Marist poll showed that 60% of Americans, both "pro-life" and "pro-choice" oppose the use of tax dollars to pay for a woman's abortion.

We respectfully ask for your specific amendment to add to the list of ingredients prohibited for cosmetic purposes, any ingredient containing or derived from human embryonic and fetal tissue obtained through abortion. Children deserve to live, but aborted children at minimum deserve humane disposal not to be packaged as wrinkle creams. In any case consumers have the right to know, through clear ingredient labeling, if they are slathering aborted babies on their faces.

Thank you for your consideration for the dignity of each human life, born and preborn.