



Olivia Bartlett, Co-Lead, DoTheMostGood Maryland Team

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations

TESTIMONY ON: HB0643 - Public Health – Cosmetic Products – Ingredient Prohibition

POSITION: FAVORABLE

HEARING DATE: February 16, 2021

BILL SPONSORS: Delegate Palakovich Carr

DoTheMostGood (DTMG) is a progressive grass-roots organization with more than 2500 members who live in a wide range of communities in Montgomery and Frederick Counties, from Bethesda near the DC line north to Frederick and from Poolesville east to Silver Spring and Olney. DTMG supports legislation and activities that keep all the members of our communities healthy and safe in a clean environment. DTMG strongly supports HB0643 because toxic chemicals don't belong in cosmetics that we use on our bodies.

Toxic chemicals are found in everyday products used by many Marylanders. HB0643 will ban 12 of these harmful chemicals, including mercury, formaldehyde, and certain parabens, from cosmetics and personal care products used by Marylanders every day. Many of these chemicals have already been banned in California, Canada, and the European Union due to their known harmful effects on human health.

Although some large retailers no longer carry products that contain these ingredients, many smaller companies and retailers still use these harmful chemicals in their products. HB0643 will protect Marylanders by banning products that contain these toxic chemicals. The proposed effective date of January 1, 2025 will give the smaller retailers ample time to formulate or find safe replacement products.

Therefore, DoTheMostGood strongly recommends a **FAVORABLE** report on HB0643.

Respectfully submitted,

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