



October 2, 2015

The Honorable Andrea LaFontaine  
Committee on Natural Resources, Chair  
Michigan House of Representatives  
124 North Capitol Ave., P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

**RE: Support for Sub H.B. 4345 (Outman) – Prohibiting Plastic Microbeads**

Dear Chair LaFontaine,

I am writing on behalf of the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) to respectfully urge your support for the substitute version of H.B. 4345, which is scheduled to be heard by the Committee on Natural Resources on October 6. The bill seeks to phase-out the use of synthetic plastic microbeads in personal care products and over-the-counter medicines.

CHPA is the 134-year-old trade association representing the leading manufacturers and marketers of over-the-counter (OTC) medicines and dietary supplements. Every dollar spent by consumers on OTC medicines saves the U.S. healthcare system \$6-\$7, contributing a total of \$102 billion in savings each year. CHPA is committed to promoting the increasingly vital role of over-the-counter medicines and dietary supplements in America's healthcare system through science, education, and advocacy.

CHPA member companies understand that plastic pollution in the environment is of concern to regulators, policy makers, advocacy groups and the public. CHPA's member companies do not oppose the phase-out of plastic microbeads from over-the-counter medications. In fact, many manufacturers began proactively phasing-out the use of synthetic plastic microbeads prior to the introduction of legislation on this matter.

CHPA supports uniform state solutions aimed at avoiding a patchwork of differing laws to address concerns related to synthetic plastic microbeads. To date, eight states, including three Great Lakes states (Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin), have adopted laws prohibiting the sale of products containing synthetic plastic microbeads, and fully half the country has considered legislation on the issue in 2015. CHPA supports Sub H.B. 4345 because it mirrors the laws enacted by Michigan's neighbors, ensuring reasonable effective dates and uniform definitions for key terms.

CHPA commends Representative Outman for his balanced approach to addressing this issue, and we respectfully urge your support for H.B. 4345 as proposed to be amended. CHPA sincerely appreciates your consideration of our position on this issue. If you have any questions regarding our position, please contact CHPA's in-state counsel, Adrian Cazal (Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC) at 517-484-8800 or [ACazal@mhsa.com](mailto:ACazal@mhsa.com).

Respectfully submitted,

Sean R. Moore  
Associate Director, State Government Affairs

cc: House Committee on Natural Resources  
The Honorable Rick Outman, Michigan House of Representatives  
Mr. Adrian Cazal, Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC