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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Angel Cruz

DATE: July 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship - Banning the Use of Bisphenol A (BPA) in Food and Beverage Containers

In the near future I will be introducing legislation that proposes to ban the use of bisphenol A (BPA) in all food and beverage containers that are manufactured, sold or distributed within Pennsylvania.

BPA is an industrial chemical used to make polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins which are often used in many containers that store food and beverages, such as water bottles, baby bottles, and food cans. While the use of BPA for the purpose of food storage has yielded many benefits by way of preventing contamination and extending the shelf life of foods; this advantage has come with a considerable and hazardous cost.

In recent years, many reputable scientific studies have found that the chemical bisphenol A poses serious risks to the overall health of human beings, particularly to that of infants and young children. Specifically, studies have linked BPA to serious health problems such as breast and prostate cancer, as well as autism, heart disease, and certain reproductive abnormalities.

Across the nation, many commendable efforts have been made to ban the use of BPA in the manufacture of baby and toddler products. However, the task of protecting Pennsylvania's entire general populace from the dangers which BPA poses remains paramount. As such, I intend to introduce legislation that proposes to ban the use of BPA in all products manufactured for the storage of food and beverages.

If you would like to co-sponsor this measure, please contact my Legislative Assistant, Christina Consylman at (717) 787-1407 x 6478 or cconsylm@pahouse.net.