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*Excerpted from Klean Kanteen's letter of support for SB 797*

August 17, 2009

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Member of the California State Assembly,

I am writing to you as a member of the California business community to express support for SB 797 (Pavley-Liu) to restrict the chemical, bisphenol-a (BPA), from baby bottles and infant formula. Many scientific studies indicate BPA has the potential to act as an endocrine-disrupter when ingested, and fetuses, infants, and children are most susceptible to develop negative human health affects associated with BPA such as diabetes, heart disease, cancers, infertility, obesity, and neurological disorders.

My family's company, Klean Kanteen®, is based in Chico, California; we developed the first stainless steel bottle on the market for personal beverage consumption. Many years ago, our company recognized the growing scientific concern regarding human exposure to BPA, and introduced stainless steel bottles in 2004 specifically as an alternative to BPA-containing polycarbonate plastic that was the dominant material for reusable bottles at the time. Our product line includes bottles and sippies designed for children, and in Fall 2009 will include a stainless steel infant bottle.

And while all Klean Kanteens are BPA-free, many products that contact food or beverage ingested by infants and children are not. We support SB 797 because it gives authority to the State of California's Green Chemistry Initiative to ensure all children's products are BPA-free if no concrete determination is made regarding presence of BPA in children's products by January 2011.

The potential for harm to fetuses, infants, and children is irrefutable. Scientists from the National Toxicology Program's Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (CERHR) and a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)-sponsored workshop have independently reviewed the literature on BPA (over 700 publications). Both issued reports which independently concluded there was sufficient evidence from animal studies indicating BPA may cause adverse effects at levels to which humans are exposed. Both reports also noted significant data gaps need to be filled, and there are efforts underway to identify, fund, and/or execute scientific studies to provide for those gaps. In the face of concern and evidence raised thus far about BPA, it seems appropriate to proceed as outlined in SB 797 in the spirit of the precautionary principle:

*"When an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically."*

— from the 1998 Wingspread Statement on the precautionary principle



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I truly appreciate the opportunity to offer my company's perspective as a business that is growing, even through weak economic times, because we are part of an industry meeting consumer demand for BPA-free products. It was concern about the link between BPA and adverse human health occurrences which led us to create Klean Kanteen. We hope you will support SB 797 as a responsible effort to limit BPA ingestion by infants and children, as they constitute a segment of the human population scientists believe are most at risk to the potential harms of this chemical.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Cresswell".

Jeff Cresswell  
Co-Owner

CC: State Senator Fran Pavley and Gretchen Lee Salter, Breast Cancer Fund

