



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
State of Maryland
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: House Bill 313 (Ch. 585), Acts of 2000
2010 Legislative Report of the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Pursuant to Health-General Article, §13-1501—1506, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is directed to submit this annual legislative report on the activities of the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Dr. Clifford Mitchell, Director of Environmental Coordination & Public Health Residency Programs, at 410-767-6234.

Sincerely,

Clifford S. Mitchell, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.

Enclosure

cc: John M. Colmers, DHMH Secretary
Robert Summers, Acting MDE Secretary
Frances B. Phillips, R.N., M.H.A.
Russell W. Moy, M.D., M.P.H.
Bonnie S. Birkel, C.R.N.P., M.P.H.
Jed Miller, M.D.
Heather Hauck, M.S.W.
Wynee Hawk, R.N., J.D.
Sarah Albert, MSAR #

Web Site: WWW.FHA.STATE.MD.US/CEHPAC

Contact: Rachel Hess-Mutinda

410-767-2196 or rhessmutinda@dnhm.state.md.us

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & MENTAL HYGIENE
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Health-General Article, §13-1501--1506, Annotated Code of Maryland

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

John M. Colmers
Secretary
Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

Robert Summers
Acting Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment

The Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) was established in 2000 by Health-General Article, §13-1501--1506, Annotated Code of Maryland. CEHPAC advises the Governor and the General Assembly on environmental issues that may pose a threat to children. The growing knowledge that children are particularly vulnerable to environmental hazards was the impetus for establishing the CEHPAC. This statute places Maryland at the forefront of the broad issues related to children's environmental health.

Mission

CEHPAC seeks to identify environmental hazards that may affect children's health and to recommend solutions to those hazards through interdisciplinary problem solving and coalition building. CEHPAC's goals were developed in 2001 and are reaffirmed annually. They are to:

- Ensure that the rules, regulations, and standards of the State protect children from environmental hazards;
- Educate involved parties regarding the environmental hazards that impact children's health and the means to avoid those hazards; and
- Enable children in Maryland to grow up in a safe and healthy environment.

Membership

CEHPAC is composed of members from State agencies and private sector representatives with interest and expertise in the area of children's health and the environment. (See Appendix A for CEHPAC Membership.) There are currently seven unfilled positions on CEHPAC.

CEHPAC members also provide CEHPAC representation on the following Maryland Councils and related groups:

- ◆ Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission
- ◆ Maryland Asthma Control Program
- ◆ Maryland State School Health Council
- ◆ Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee
- ◆ Maryland Council on Cancer Control
- ◆ Air Quality Control Advisory Council

CEHPAC Activities

CEHPAC has convened in public session six times within the last 12 months. CEHPAC meetings enabled CEHPAC to discuss pending legislation, review proposed regulations, and provide educational presentations for members. During the 2010 legislative session, CEHPAC monitored bills related to children's environmental health, including bills associated with indoor and outdoor air quality, classroom indoor air quality, and phthalates.

CEHPAC received and reviewed the following regulations:

COMAR 26.11.19 Air Quality: Volatile Organic Compounds from Specific Processes, including:

- COMAR 26.11.19.07 Paper, Fabric, Vinyl, and other Plastic Parts Coating
- COMAR 26.11.19.13 Miscellaneous Metal Coating

COMAR 26.11.06 General Emission Standards, Prohibitions and Restrictions

CEHPAC also discussed proposed legislation on a number of environmental health issues during the 2010 legislative session. The legislation reviewed included:

SB 514: Environment – Permits to Construct or Materially Alter an Incinerator – Limitations on Issuance

SB 989: Health – Clean Indoor Air Act – Electronic Smoking Devices

SB 431: Food and Cosmetics – Auction Sales – Prohibition – Exception

HB 932: Public Schools – New Construction or Renovation – Children’s Environmental Health

HB 976: Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing

HB 1380: County Boards of Education – Green Product Cleaning Supplies – Written Policies

HB 1503 Children’s Environmental Health Protection Act

A letter of support for House Bill 1503 was sent to the Chairs of the House Ways and Means Committee. (See Appendix B for CEHPAC’s letter of support).

Accomplishments

A major event for CEHPAC was the first-ever Maryland’s Children and Pesticides Symposium. CEHPAC held a day-long symposium on Maryland’s children and pesticides at Howard Community College on June 2, 2010. (See Appendix C for the symposium’s agenda.) CEHPAC and the Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee were the principal sponsors for the symposium. Co-sponsors included the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Department of Agriculture, and the Maryland Environmental Public Health Tracking Project. The symposium was attended by approximately 90 people, including policymakers; public health professionals from State and local agencies; academia and nongovernmental organizations; advocates; and other members of the public. The symposium provided an overview of our current scientific understanding of pesticides and related considerations for children’s health, in order to give the audience a starting point for further consideration of issues surrounding children and pesticides. Delegate James Hubbard delivered the keynote address and presentations were given by experts from a variety of agencies and organizations, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children’s Health and the Environment, Beyond Pesticides, and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Another milestone involved CEHPAC's deliberations and contribution to the consideration of biomonitoring in Maryland. House Bill 181 (Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Biomonitoring Program – Report), enacted earlier this year by the Maryland General Assembly, directs DHMH, in consultation with the Maryland Department of the Environment, to undertake a study on the feasibility of a State biomonitoring program. Biomonitoring, which is the analysis of chemical or physical agents in biological specimens such as urine, blood, or hair, has been used as a way of understanding how much of a substance or group of substances actually exist within a person or group of people. Such a program would provide data on population exposures to chemicals through measurement of specific chemicals in Maryland residents. House Bill 181 also requires that a report on the feasibility study be submitted to the State legislature by June 30, 2011. Because children are particularly susceptible to environmental chemical exposures and thus represent an important consideration for biomonitoring, CEHPAC is being used to inform and develop the biomonitoring feasibility study. This will allow input from CEHPAC members and nominees, together representing a diversity of perspectives, and will afford opportunities for discussion with regional and national biomonitoring experts as guests at CEHPAC meetings. Additionally, CEHPAC will host a public meeting in Spring 2011 to discuss the feasibility study before the report is submitted to the legislature.

CEHPAC is encouraged by the continued development of the CDC-sponsored Maryland Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) project and its database of integrated environmental and health data, the Maryland Tracking Network. The Network's public portal has been available since 2009 and a secure portal was launched in Fall 2010. The secure portal allows local and State health officials to analyze environmental and health data specific to their jurisdiction at a fine level of detail. The planned inclusion of childhood lead poisoning data on the Network's secure portal represents progress in making children's environmental health data readily accessible to those who can use it for decision making. In addition to the current and planned availability of this and other data relevant to children's health on the Maryland Tracking Network, the Maryland EPHT project is working to develop dedicated children's environmental health indicators for inclusion on the Network. CEHPAC will continue to follow the efforts of the Maryland EPHT project and its impact on children's environmental health surveillance in Maryland.

Finally, CEHPAC is also planning future collaborations with both the Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee and the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities (the latter of which is statutorily mandated to meet with CEHPAC periodically). The upcoming symposium on biomonitoring, to be held in Spring of 2011, will be such a collaboration, and others are under consideration for the future.

Recommendations and Future Priorities

In establishing CEHPAC, the Maryland General Assembly clearly identified children's environmental health as a priority for the State. In addition to complying with its mandate to review and comment on State regulations that may affect children's environmental health, CEHPAC has increasingly seen the need for effective surveillance of children's environmental health. The advent of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, and the continued interest in biomonitoring in Maryland, demonstrates the continued need to improve surveillance for children's environmental health.

CEHPAC will also play a role in reviewing upcoming regulations such as the DHMH regulations for Bisphenol-A (BPA), currently under development.

Conclusion

CEHPAC will continue to review proposed regulations and legislation to ensure that Maryland's children are protected from environmental hazards that detrimentally impact health. CEHPAC will also continue to educate its members and other interested parties regarding the growing body of knowledge related to children's environmental health.

APPENDIX A:

MEMBERSHIP 2010

<p>Maryland Senate The Honorable Nancy Jacobs Maryland Senate</p>	<p>Licensed Pediatrician Benjamin A. Gitterman, MD Children's National Medical Center</p>
<p>Maryland House of Delegates The Honorable James W. Hubbard Maryland House of Delegates</p>	<p>Allergy/Asthma Expert Nomination Pending</p>
<p>Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Clifford Mitchell, MD, MS, MPH Environmental Health Coordination & Public Health Residency Programs (Chair)</p>	<p>Parent or Guardian Nomination Pending</p>
<p>Department of the Environment Jed Miller, MD Science Services Administration (Co-Chair)</p>	<p>Environmental Epidemiologist Vacant</p>
<p>Department of Agriculture Edward Crowe</p>	<p>Economist Vacant</p>
<p>Department of Education Alicia Mezu School Health Services</p>	<p>Environmental Toxicologist Nomination Pending</p>
<p>Department of Human Resources Roosevelt Jordan Out-of-Home Services</p>	<p>Maryland Association of Counties Nomination Pending</p>
<p>Department of Housing and Community Development Vacant</p>	<p>Private Industry Vacant</p>

APPENDIX B:



**CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH &
PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 23, 2010

The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson
Chair, Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

Dear Delegate Hixson:

The Children's Environmental Health & Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) respectfully submits this letter on House Bill 1503, *Children's Environmental Health Protection Act*. The proposed legislation would require county school boards to adopt health and safety plans that include a number of protections for children including hazardous substance removal, fire and life safety code repair plans, and plans regarding moisture intrusion management, cleaning products, construction and renovation. The Act would require these plans be submitted to the Department Health and Mental Hygiene for approval; the Department is also responsible for training and the development of model plans.

CEHPAC recognizes that there are cases in which children's health can be adversely affected by environmental hazards in schools. CEHPAC also notes that programs such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Tools for Schools* have been successfully used to create within schools an awareness of potential hazards, and supports policies that promote this awareness. CEHPAC further recognizes that schools have a number of fiscal and educational challenges, and need to develop cost-effective means of protecting children from potential environmental hazards while promoting education and health. The use of preventive inspections and walk-through evaluations as called for in the proposed legislation, combined with a commitment to preventive maintenance and timely repair of problems, can reduce the need for expensive corrective actions, as well as potentially harmful exposures, in many cases.

The Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council, established pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health-General §§ 13-501-506, is an independent body comprised of 18 Council members. The opinions of the Council expressed in this letter do not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or any other State agency.

CEHPAC looks forward to working with the General Assembly on this issue, and thanks you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Clifford S. Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH

APPENDIX C:

MARYLAND'S CHILDREN AND PESTICIDES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010

9:00AM – 4:00PM

**HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COLUMBIA, MARYLAND**

PROGRAM

- 8:30 AM Registration & Morning Snacks
- 9:00 AM Welcome & Overview

Clifford Mitchell, Chair, Maryland Children's Environmental Health and
Protection Advisory Council
Frederick Kutz, Chair, Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee
- 9:10 AM Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Honorable Elizabeth Bobo, Maryland House of Delegates
- 9:15 AM Keynote Address

Honorable James W. Hubbard, Assistant Majority Leader, Maryland House of
Delegates
- 9:45 AM Pesticide distribution in the environment and in newborns: Maryland data

Dennis Howard, Maryland Department of Agriculture
Cherie Miller, U.S. Geological Survey
Gila Neta, National Institutes of Health
- 10:45 AM Break
- 11:00 AM Current perspectives on pesticides

Rick Keigwin, Director of Pesticide Re-evaluation Division,
EPA Office of Pesticide Programs

John Kepner, Project Director, Beyond Pesticides

11:40 AM Open Discussion

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: LUNCH (Provided)

1:00 PM Clinical perspectives on pesticides in children

Benjamin Gitterman, Co-Director, Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment

1:30 PM Potential Strategies for Monitoring Pesticide Exposures in Maryland's Children

Amy Brown, University of Maryland
Prince Kassim, Laboratories Administration, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Lynn Goldman, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Moderator: Dr. Clifford Mitchell

2:30 PM Innovative Strategies for Pesticides and Pest Management

Mark Hardin, Howard County School Department
Ruth Berlin, Maryland Pesticide Network
Gene Harrington, National Pest Management Association
Madeleine Shea, Healthy Homes Division, Baltimore City Health Department
Betty Marose, University of Maryland

Moderator: Dr. Frederick Kutz

3:30 PM Open Discussion

4:00 PM Closing Remarks/Adjourn