

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 5024**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, December 28, 2018.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill to protect children, families and firefighters from harmful flame retardants. (House, No. 4656), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 5024).

For the committee,

JEFFREY SÁNCHEZ.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)  
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An Act to protect children, families, and firefighters from harmful flame retardants.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to regulate certain flame retardants, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 21A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following section:-

3           Section 28. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context  
4 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

5           “Bedding”, any residential or commercial bedding material including, but not limited to,  
6 a mattress, mattress pad, mattress cover, sheeting, pillow, blanket, comforter, duvet cover,  
7 sleeping bag or any other stuffed item intended to be used for reclining or sleeping.

8           “Carpeting”, residential or commercial fabric floor covering, including carpet padding.

9           “Children’s product”, a consumer product intended, made or marketed for use by children  
10 12 years of age or under. For the purposes of this section, “children’s product” shall not include:

11 (i) batteries;

12 (ii) inaccessible components of a consumer product that, during a reasonably foreseeable  
13 use and abuse of the children’s product, would not come into direct contact with a child’s skin or  
14 mouth; and

15 (iii) consumer electronic and electrical products, including but not limited to personal  
16 computers, audio and video equipment, calculators, wireless telephones, game consoles, power  
17 cords, electric chargers and hand-held devices incorporating a video screen used to access  
18 interactive software and associated peripherals.

19 “Covered product”, bedding, carpeting, children’s product, residential upholstered  
20 furniture or window treatment.

21 “Department”, the department of environmental protection.

22 “Engineered nanoobject”, a material with 1, 2 or 3 external dimensions in the nanoscale.

23 “Manufacturer”, a person or entity that produces, imports or distributes covered products.

24 “Nanoscale”, a size range from approximately 1 nanometer to 100 nanometers.

25 “Residential upholstered furniture”, seating or other upholstered products intended for  
26 indoor or outdoor use in or at a home or other dwelling intended for residential occupancy that  
27 consists in whole or in part of resilient cushioning materials enclosed within a covering  
28 consisting of fabric or other textile. For the purposes of this section, “residential upholstered  
29 furniture” shall not include furniture for which the core functionality depends on upon the  
30 utilization of electric or electronic components subject to various underwriters laboratories other

31 comparable flammability standards, including but not limited to massage chairs, assisted lift  
32 chairs and home theater seating.

33 “Retailer”, a person or entity that offers a product for sale at retail through any means  
34 including, but not limited to, remote offerings such as sales outlets, catalogs or the internet but  
35 shall not include a sale that is a wholesale transaction with a distributor or a retailer.

36 “Window treatment”, residential or commercial curtain materials, blinds or shades.

37 (b) A manufacturer or retailer shall not sell, offer or manufacture for sale, distribute in  
38 commerce or import into the commonwealth a covered product, except for inventory  
39 manufactured prior to January 1, 2019, that contains any of the following chemical flame  
40 retardants or a chemical analogue the total weight of which exceeds 1,000 parts per million for  
41 any component part of the covered product:

42 (i) Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl)phosphate (TDCPP) (Chemical Abstracts Service number  
43 13674-87-8);

44 (ii) Tris(2-chloroethyl)phosphate (TCEP) (Chemical Abstracts Service number 115-  
45 1496-8);

46 (iii) Antimony trioxide (Chemical Abstracts Service number 1309-64-4);

47 (iv) Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) (Chemical Abstracts Service number 25637-99-  
48 4);

49 (v) Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)-3,4,5,6- tetrabromophthalate (TBPH) (Chemical Abstracts Service  
50 number 26040-51-7);

51 (vi) 2-Ethylhexyl-2,3,4,5-tetrabromobenzoate (TBB) (Chemical Abstracts Service  
52 number 183658-27-7);

53 (vii) Chlorinated paraffins (Chemical Abstracts Service number 85535-84-8);

54 (viii) Tris (1-chloro-2-propyl) phosphate (TCPP) (Chemical Abstracts Service number  
55 13674-84-5);

56 (ix) pentaBDE (Chemical Abstracts Service number 32534-81-9);

57 (x) octaBDE (Chemical Abstracts Service number 32536-52-0);

58 (xi) Tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBPA) (Chemical Abstracts Service number 79-94-7); or

59 (xii) any other chemical flame retardants specified by the department pursuant to  
60 subsection (c).

61 (c) Every 3 years the department shall, in consultation with the Toxics Use Reduction  
62 Institute and the Science Advisory Board established in section 6 of chapter 21I, review, identify  
63 and recommend other chemical flame retardants that should be prohibited under subsection (b);  
64 provided, however, that the department shall demonstrate that the chemical flame retardant is  
65 known to: (i) harm the normal development of a fetus or child or cause other developmental  
66 toxicity; (ii) cause cancer, genetic damage or reproductive harm; (iii) disrupt the endocrine  
67 system; (iv) damage the nervous system, immune system or an organ or cause other systemic  
68 toxicity; or (v) is found to be a persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic.

69 If the department determines that a chemical flame retardant meets the conditions of this  
70 subsection, it shall promulgate rules to restrict the manufacture, sale, distribution in commerce or  
71 importation of any children's product or residential upholstered furniture containing the chemical

72 flame retardant within 9 months after making such determination. A manufacturer or retailer  
73 shall not sell, offer or manufacture for sale, distribute in commerce or import into the  
74 commonwealth any covered product, except for inventory manufactured prior to the effective  
75 date of the promulgated rule, that contains the chemical flame retardant in a total weight that  
76 exceeds 1,000 parts per million for any component part of the covered product; provided,  
77 however, that if the chemical flame retardant is an engineered nanoobject a manufacturer or  
78 retailer shall not sell, offer or manufacture for sale, distribute in commerce or import into the  
79 commonwealth any covered product, except for inventory manufactured prior to the effective  
80 date of the promulgated rule, that contains the chemical flame retardant in any amount.

81 (d) This section shall not apply to: (i) motor vehicles, watercraft, aircraft, all-terrain  
82 vehicles, off-highway motorcycles or any component parts; or (ii) the sale or purchase of any  
83 previously-owned product containing a chemical flame retardant prohibited under this section.

84 (e) Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, shall not apply to the sale, purchase, lease,  
85 distribution or use of any covered product manufactured before January 1, 2019 or any covered  
86 product that contains chemicals prohibited under this section due to the presence of recycled  
87 materials used during the manufacture of the product covered.

88 (f) A manufacturer or retailer who violates the provisions of subsection (b), or any  
89 regulations promulgated thereunder, shall be subject to the following civil penalties:

90 (i) for the first violation, a fine of not more than \$100 per covered product, not to exceed  
91 a total of \$5,000;

92 (ii) for the second violation, a fine of not more than \$250 per covered product, not to  
93 exceed a total of \$25,000; and

94 (iii) for the third or subsequent violation, a fine of not more than \$1,000 per covered  
95 product, not to exceed a total of \$50,000.

96 For purposes of calculating a penalty under this subsection, a collection of covered  
97 products that are sold as a set shall constitute 1 covered product.

98 A manufacturer or retailer who knowingly violates this section shall be subject to a civil  
99 penalty equal to 3 times the amount of the fine imposed for such violation pursuant to the first  
100 paragraph.

101 A civil penalty for a violation of this section imposed pursuant to this subsection shall be  
102 waived by the department if the department determines that a manufacturer or retailer acted in  
103 good faith to be in compliance with this section, pursued compliance with due diligence and  
104 promptly corrected any noncompliance after discovery of the violation.

105 (g) The department may promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to  
106 implement this section.

107 (h) The department may establish a labeling program for any covered product that meets  
108 relevant fire safety standards and does not contain a chemical flame retardant prohibited by  
109 subsection (b).

110 SECTION 2. A manufacturer of a covered product as defined in section 28 of chapter  
111 21A of the General Laws that contains a chemical flame retardant prohibited by said section 28  
112 of said chapter 21A shall provide notice to retailers and other persons that sell covered products  
113 in the commonwealth of the passage of this act on or before June 30, 2019.

114 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2019.