

My Style Matters, Inc.

Thank you to Washington State for your leadership in protecting public health. On behalf of My Style Matters, we strongly support the Department of Ecology's draft rule to ban all formaldehyde releasers in cosmetics. This is a necessary step toward creating safer personal care products for all women and girls.

As a two-time breast cancer survivor and the founder of My Style Matters, a nonprofit organization that empowers individuals through education, advocacy, and support around breast health and environmental wellness, I have seen how everyday exposures can have lasting impacts on our health. From a young age, women and girls are using products that are marketed to enhance beauty but may instead be silently contributing to serious health risks.

This issue is also a matter of justice. Black women, in particular, are disproportionately exposed to toxic chemicals due to the targeted marketing of products like hair straighteners, relaxers, and skin lighteners. These products often contain formaldehyde or its releasers and have been linked to increased risk of hormone-related cancers, reproductive harm, and other long-term health issues. This is a necessary step towards safer products and greater health equity. I urge you to continue putting people over profits. All people deserve access to personal care products that protect their health, not compromise it.

Sincerely,
Tiah Tomlin-Harris, MS
Founder & Executive Director, My Style Matters

Thank you to Washington State for your leadership in protecting public health. I strongly support the Department of Ecology's draft rule to ban all formaldehyde releasers in cosmetics. This is a necessary step toward creating safer personal care products for all women and girls.

As a breast cancer survivor and advocate, I know how important it is that the products we use on our bodies every day are free from harmful chemicals. From a young age, women and girls are exposed to countless personal care products—many of which contain ingredients linked to cancer, reproductive harm, and hormone disruption. No one should have to worry that what they're using to care for themselves could be putting their health at risk.

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With gratitude,
Tiah Tomlin-Harris
Women's Health Advocate