Re: **Cancer-Causing Formaldehyde in Children’s Products**

Dear Governor LePage,

Today, the nation’s top scientists have spoken: Exposure to the widely used industry chemical formaldehyde causes cancer in humans. That’s the finding of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. (See [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=18948](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=18948).)

For that reason, we are asking you to reverse the April 29, 2014 decision of your Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to withdraw its proposed rule to require manufacturers to disclose which children’s products contain formaldehyde.

At the time, DEP spokesperson Jessamine Logan told the Bangor Daily News (May 5, 2014) that the reason that the rule was withdrawn was the pending re-review of the science on formaldehyde toxicity by the National Academy of Sciences, stating that: “We have not rule out prioritization of formaldehyde but believe it is appropriate to wait until the federal review is completed.”

Now that the nation’s top scientists have spoken, there are no more excuses for delaying action to protect children’s health from cancer-causing formaldehyde.

We respectfully request that you direct DEP to reissue the proposed formaldehyde rule forthwith and to schedule it for a timely public hearing and final adoption.

Thank you for your concern for the health and well being of Maine families.

Sincerely,

Michael Belliveau, President

cc: Patricia Aho, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection