

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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PRESS RELEASE

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LEGISLATOR STEVE STERN'S "SAFER SALES SLIP ACT" SIGNED INTO LAW

*BPA Legislation First of its Kind in the Country
Legislature That Passed the First-in-the-Nation Ban on BPA Continues to Lead the Way in
Protecting Public Health*



Pictured l-r Brian Lahiff, Suffolk County Child Care Council, Elsa Ford, Brentwood/Bay Shore Breast Cancer Coalition, Legislator Steve Stern, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Karen Joy Miller, Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition, Shelby Poole, Jackson's Restaurant

HUNTINGTON, NY—Legislator Steve Stern's (D-Huntington, 16th LD) "*Safer Sales Slip Act*," was signed into law by County Executive Steve Bellone on January 3, 2013. Legislator Stern and County Executive Bellone were joined by Karen Joy Miller, President of the Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition (HBCAC), Elsa Ford, President of the Brentwood/Bay Shore Breast Cancer Coalition, Shelby Poole, owner of Jackson's Restaurant, which has committed to using BPA free thermal paper and other health and environmental advocates.

BPA is a proven endocrine disruptor and has been linked to a myriad of health problems for men, women and children. Suffolk County will once again lead the nation in limiting exposure to this known toxin. This new law will protect Suffolk County residents from exposure to BPA contained in thermal paper cash register receipts distributed by retail establishments, bank ATMs and gas station pumps.

“This legislation takes our protection of Suffolk County residents one step further by banning the use of BPA as a receipt of purchase for any sales made in Suffolk County,” said County Executive Bellone. “I am pleased that government can serve as a partner with the public health advocacy community and the research community to enact legislation that will provide a safer and healthier Suffolk County.”

In 2009, Legislator Stern authored the *“Toxin Free Toddlers and Babies Act,”* the first legislation in the nation to ban BPA from baby bottles and cups for young children. That landmark legislation has since been adopted by several states, the European Union and finally this summer, nationwide by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Legislator Stern’s new law will remove an everyday source of exposure to BPA, thermal paper receipts, which use BPA to “develop” the print. BPA is absorbed through the skin and through hand to mouth contact, and has been linked to cancers of the breast and prostate, endocrine disorders, learning disabilities, obesity and diabetes and is detectable in more than 93% of the population.

“The Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition (HBCAC) applauds Legislator Stern and the Suffolk County Legislature for taking this important step to protect public health,” said Karen Miller, HBCAC President. HBCAC’s mission is “Prevention is the Cure’ and this law will help prevent exposure to a known cause of disease”

“Suffolk County led the way in protecting the public against exposure to BPA with the passage of the *“Toxin Free Toddlers and Babies Act,”* and once again will be in the forefront by eliminating one of the most prevalent sources of exposure to this toxin-the sales receipt,” Legislator Stern said. “Most people are unaware of the danger posed by a seemingly harmless piece of paper. This is unacceptable when inexpensive alternatives are available and being used by many retailers. The *“Safer Sales Slip Act”* will help ensure that Suffolk County residents are protected from this everyday source of exposure to BPA.”