# **Brominated Flame Retardants**

Toxic chemicals we don't need in modern life

Brominated flame retardants (BFRs) are a wide range of substances, some very toxic, that the chemical industry pays to promote and defend.

#### Who wants toxic flame retardants?

The chemical industry makes billions of dollars on substances that are toxic or not proven to be safe.

# Toxic flame retardants put children at risk



Various BFRs have been linked to cancer, thyroid disruption, memory and learning problems.

# Toxic-free fire safety is the future



Companies like Kaiser Permanente reject furniture made with toxic flame retardant chemicals, and manufacturers are supplying fire-safe alternatives.

# 200,000 tons BFRs per year for the \$2 Billion a year bromine industry



The public pays the health and environmental costs of releasing hundreds of tons of chemicals each year into the environment.

# Where are toxic BFRs found?

## **BFRs** are used

in many everyday objects such as your TV and couch!





**BFRs pollute** household dust, rivers and lakes, wildife, food and even the bodies of infants and children

### CHILDREN

#### **WILDLIFE**

## **ADULTS**



Young children have about 4x higher levels of some BFRs in their bodies than their parents. Children are exposed through breast milk, food and household dust.



BFRs have been detected in: salmon osprey eggs harbor seals grizzly bear beluga whales

Levels of some toxic flame retardants doubled in people and wildlife about every five years for 20 years.

Adults in North America are more contaminated with some BFRs than European adults.

http://share.kaiserpermanente.org/article/kaiser-permanente-commits-to-purchasing-furniture-free-from-toxic-flame-retardant-chemicals/http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1241790/pdf/ehp0112-000009.pdfhttp://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/14998004

http://www.epa.gov/ncea

Firefighters, doctors and parents want fire-safe products without toxics.



Safer States is a network of diverse environmental health coalitions and organizations in states around the country. info@saferstates.org | http://www.saferstates.org

WASHINGTON TOXICS COALITION

www.watoxics.org