

Amendments to labeling requirements for
plastic bags and plastic film:
105 CMR 630.000

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I. Background

- M.G.L. c. 111, § 5D requires DPH to promulgate regulations concerning labeling, thickness, and methods of use of plastic bags and plastic film to protect the lives and safety of the public, notably children.
- DPH promulgated 105 CMR 630.000 in 1978. The regulations have not been updated since then.
- DPH's Bureau of Environmental Health proposes amending 105 CMR 630.000 to conform with labeling requirements used in other states.

II. Proposed Amendments

- 105 CMR 630.000 requires that warning labels appear on both sides of certain plastic bags.
- Other states with labeling requirements only require that the warning label must appear on one side of the bag.
- DPH proposes amending this regulation to require labeling on one side of the bag, consistent with other states. This amendment would ensure that warnings protecting children continue to appear on plastic bags but would conform with the approach taken by other states.

III. Next Steps

- Following this initial presentation, a public hearing and comment period will be held.
- Approval of the proposed amendments, along with a review of public comments, will be requested at a subsequent meeting of the Public Health Council.
- Following final approval, this regulation will be amended.

Questions?

