

ASSEMBLY, No. 5452

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman MARGIE DONLON, M.D.

District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

“Protecting Against Microplastics Act”; appropriates \$3 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/5/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning microplastics, supplementing Title 56 and Title
2 13 of the Revised Statutes, and making an appropriation.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Protecting
8 Against Microplastics Act.”

9
10 2. As used in this act:

11 “Chewing gum” means a soft, cohesive, insoluble plastic
12 substance intended for chewing, not intended to be swallowed, and
13 occasionally sweetened or flavored.

14 “Cosmetic” means the same as that term is defined in R.S.24:1-1.

15 “Department” means the Department of Environmental
16 Protection.

17 “Division” means the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
18 Department of Law and Public Safety.

19 “Foodware” means any nondurable package or service ware,
20 such as bowls, plates, cups, lids, utensils, trays, straws, stirrers,
21 clamshells, cutting boards, cookware, and bakeware that is used for
22 containing, holding, packaging, serving, or consuming prepared
23 food and beverages whether for single-use or reusable items.
24 “Foodware” includes sustainable foodware.

25 “Intentionally added microplastic” means an artificial monomer
26 chain, added to a product or deliberately used during the
27 development of a product or one of its product components, to
28 provide a specific characteristic, appearance, or quality or to
29 perform a specific function. “Intentionally added microplastic”
30 shall not include a technically unavoidable trace quantity of a
31 synthetic polymer microplastic, which stems from impurities of
32 natural or synthetic ingredients or the manufacturing process,
33 storage, or migration from packaging of the product or product
34 component.

35 “Label” means a display of written, printed, or graphic material
36 that is affixed to a product or its immediate container or wrapper.

37 “Manufacturer” means a person that manufactures a product or
38 whose brand name is affixed to the product. In the case of a
39 product imported into the United States, “manufacturer” includes
40 the importer or first domestic distributor of the product, if the
41 person that manufactured or assembled the product or whose brand
42 name is affixed to the product does not have a presence in the
43 United States.

44 “Microplastic” means a material, five millimeters or less in
45 diameter, composed of synthetic polymers and chemical additives,
46 that has been added to a product over the course of the
47 manufacturing or industrial process.

1 “Particle” means a minute piece of matter, other than single
2 molecules, with defined physical boundaries.

3 “Plastic” means the same as that term is defined in section 1 of
4 P.L.2021, c.391 (C.13:1E-99.135).

5 “Polymer” means a synthetic material made of long and
6 repeating molecular chains derived from petrochemicals.

7 “Potentially ingestible product” means any product which is
8 edible, designed to be applied to the facial area, or capable of being
9 swallowed or inhaled, which shall include, but not be limited to,
10 chewing gum, tea bags, coffee grounds, talcum powder, and pet
11 food.

12 “Product” means an item manufactured, assembled, packaged or
13 otherwise prepared for sale to consumers, including its product
14 components, sold or distributed for personal, residential,
15 commercial or industrial use, including for use in making other
16 products. “Product” does not mean used products offered for sale
17 or resale.

18 “Secondary microplastics” means a discrete source of plastic
19 materials or microplastics, other than the source material, that have
20 been broken down into microplastics by various environmental
21 pathways, and which are released when the source material
22 degrades. A biproduct of intentionally added microplastic particles
23 may include toxic monomers, plasticizers including phthalates and
24 bisphenols, styrene, dioxins, free radicals, and other persistent
25 organic pollutants, which may be more reactive, harmful, and
26 persistent than intact source plastics.

27 “Synthetic polymer microparticle” means a molecule of chained
28 monomer plastics that are solid and artificially produced. The term
29 “synthetic polymer microparticle” does not include polymers that
30 are the result of a polymerization process that has taken place in
31 nature, rather than as a result of human intervention, independently
32 of the process through which those polymers have been extracted,
33 which are not chemically modified substances.

34 “Sustainable foodware” means foodware that is made to be
35 reused or that is made from biodegradable or recyclable material,
36 which enables the product to be composted, recycled, or
37 biodegraded. “Sustainable foodware” does not include foodware
38 consisting of petroleum products.

39 “Tea bag” means a small, porous bag, sachet, or packet
40 containing tea leaves or the leaves of other herbs, which are
41 immersed in water to steep to make an infusion.

42 “Trade secret” means information, held by one or more people,
43 without regard to form, including a formula, pattern, business data
44 compilation, program, device, method, technique, design, diagram,
45 drawing, invention, plan, procedure, prototype or process, that:

46 (1) Derives independent economic value, actual or potential,
47 from not being generally known to, and not being readily

ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and

(2) Is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

3. Beginning one year after the effective date of this act, manufacturers of cleaning, cosmetic, foodware, or potentially ingestible products sold in the State shall disclose, in a product label on the exterior of a product, the presence of intentionally added microplastic, or potential for generation of other secondary microplastics.

4. a. Beginning two years after the effective date of this act, a manufacturer of cleaning, cosmetic, foodware, or potentially ingestible products sold in the State that contain intentionally added microplastics, or could generate synthetic polymer microparticles or other secondary microplastics, shall list in a product label on the handle of the product or in any product surface that comes into contact with food, foodstuffs, or beverages, the presence of the intentionally added microplastics, or potential for generation of synthetic polymer microparticles or other secondary microplastics.

b. The product label of a product containing microplastics shall include a statement, in both English and Spanish, that reads: "This product contains microplastics."

c. A manufacturer of a product sold in the State shall ensure that the statement required on the product label pursuant to subsection b. of this section is visible and legible to the consumer, including on the product listing for online sales.

d. Beginning two years after the effective date of this act, a manufacturer shall not make a claim, on the product label or Internet website for the product, that the product is free of microplastics if microplastics were intentionally added to the product.

e. Products that meet both of the following requirements shall be exempt from the labeling requirements of this section:

(1) the surface area of the product cannot fit a product label of at least two square inches; and

(2) the product does not have either of the following:

(a) an exterior container or wrapper on which a product label can appear or be affixed; or

(b) a tag or other attachment with information about the product attached to the product.

f. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a product that contains intentionally added microplastics only in electronic components or internal components of the product.

g. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, any product with a product label that lists the presence of microplastics or which could generate synthetic polymer

1 microparticles or secondary microplastics pursuant to another state
2 or federal law shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements
3 of this section.

4
5 5. a. Beginning three years after the effective date of this act,
6 no person shall sell, offer for sale, or distribute for sale in the State
7 any cleaning, cosmetic, or potentially ingestible products, if those
8 products contain intentionally added microplastics, or could
9 generate synthetic polymer microparticles or other secondary
10 microplastics.

11 b. If any of the products enumerated in subsection a. of this
12 section contain a technically unavoidable trace quantity of
13 microplastics, which stem from impurities of natural or synthetic
14 ingredients or the manufacturing process, storage, or migration
15 from packaging of the product, that trace quantity shall not cause
16 the product to be in violation of this section.

17
18 6. The division may audit or investigate a manufacturer of a
19 product covered under the provisions of this act to assess the
20 manufacturer's compliance with the requirements of this act. The
21 division shall be authorized to audit, or cause to be audited, a
22 random sample of manufacturers of products covered under the
23 provisions of this act in order to determine compliance with this act.
24 A manufacturer shall cooperate fully with any audit or investigation
25 conducted pursuant to this section. The division may require a
26 manufacturer to pay the costs of an audit conducted pursuant to this
27 section.

28
29 7. a. Whenever the division finds that a person has violated
30 any provision of this act, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant
31 thereto, including violating the provisions of subsection a. of
32 section 3 of this act, by making a false claim on the product label or
33 Internet website for a product, the division may:

34 (1) issue an order requiring the person found to be in violation to
35 comply in accordance with subsection b. of this section;

36 (2) bring a civil action in accordance with subsection c. of this
37 section;

38 (3) levy a civil administrative penalty in accordance with
39 subsection d. of this section;

40 (4) bring an action for a civil penalty in accordance with
41 subsection e. of this section;

42 (5) direct a manufacturer or other person that is not in
43 compliance with the requirements of this act to stop offering for
44 sale or distributing certain products that contain intentionally added
45 microplastics, synthetic polymer microparticles, or secondary
46 microplastic; or

47 (6) notify the public of a manufacturer that is not in compliance
48 with the requirements of this act. The exercise of any of the

1 remedies provided in this section shall not preclude the seeking of
2 any other remedy specified.

3 b. Whenever the division finds that a person has violated this
4 act, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, the division
5 may issue an administrative enforcement order specifying the
6 provision or provisions of this act, or the rule or regulation adopted
7 pursuant thereto, of which the person is in violation, citing the
8 action that constituted the violation, requiring compliance with the
9 provision violated, and giving notice to the person of the person's
10 right to a hearing on the matters contained in the administrative
11 enforcement order. The ordered person shall have 20 calendar days
12 from receipt of the order within which to deliver to the division a
13 written request for a hearing. After the hearing and upon finding
14 that a violation has occurred, the division may issue a final order. If
15 no hearing is requested, the order shall become final after the
16 expiration of the 20-day period. A request for hearing shall not
17 automatically stay the effect of the order.

18 c. The division is authorized to institute a civil action in
19 Superior Court for appropriate relief from any violation of the
20 provisions of this act, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant
21 thereto. This relief may include an assessment against the violator
22 for the costs of any investigation, inspection, or audit that led to the
23 discovery and establishment of the violation, and for the reasonable
24 costs of preparing and litigating the case under this subsection.

25 d. The division is authorized to impose a civil administrative
26 penalty of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$20,000 for each
27 violation, provided that each day during which the violation
28 continues shall constitute an additional, separate, and distinct
29 offense. In assessing a civil administrative penalty, the division
30 shall consider the severity of the violation, the measures taken to
31 prevent further violations, and whether the penalty will maintain an
32 appropriate deterrent. Prior to assessment of a civil administrative
33 penalty, the person committing the violation shall be notified by
34 certified mail or personal service that the penalty is being assessed.
35 The notice shall identify the section of the statute, rule, regulation,
36 or order violated; recite the facts alleged to constitute a violation;
37 state the basis for the amount of the civil administrative penalties to
38 be assessed; and affirm the rights of the alleged violator to a
39 hearing. The ordered party shall have 35 days from receipt of the
40 notice within which to deliver to the division a written request for a
41 hearing. After the hearing and upon finding that a violation has
42 occurred, the division may issue a final order after assessing the
43 amount of the fine specified in the notice. If no hearing is
44 requested, the notice shall become a final order after the expiration
45 of the 35-day period. Payment of the assessment is due when a final
46 order is issued or the notice becomes a final order. The authority to
47 levy an administrative order is in addition to all other enforcement
48 provisions in this act, and the payment of any assessment shall not

1 be deemed to affect the availability of any other enforcement
2 provisions in connection with the violation for which the
3 assessment is levied. The division may compromise any civil
4 administrative penalty assessed under this section in an amount and
5 with conditions the division determines appropriate.

6 e. A person who violates any provision of this act, or any rule or
7 regulation adopted pursuant thereto, or an administrative order
8 issued pursuant to subsection b. of this section, or a court order
9 issued pursuant to subsection c. of this section, or who fails to pay a
10 civil administrative penalty in full pursuant to subsection d. of this
11 section, or who knowingly makes any false or misleading statement
12 on any application, record, report, or other document required to be
13 submitted to the division shall be subject, upon order of a court, to a
14 civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 per day of the violation, and
15 each day during which the violation continues shall constitute an
16 additional, separate, and distinct offense. Any civil penalty
17 imposed pursuant to this subsection may be collected with costs in a
18 summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of
19 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.), or may be collected in
20 a civil action commenced by the division. In addition to any
21 penalties, costs, or interest charges, the Superior Court, or the
22 municipal court, as the case may be, may assess against the violator
23 the amount of economic benefit accruing to the violator from the
24 violation.

25
26 8. a. Any trade secrets included in any written notification,
27 certification, or any other record submitted to the division pursuant
28 to this act shall not be made available to the general public pursuant
29 to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), commonly known as the open
30 public records act.

31 b. In order to identify the trade secrets to be protected from
32 public disclosure pursuant to subsection a. of this section, a
33 manufacturer shall file a trade secret claim to the division, in a form
34 and manner determined by the division. The disclosure to the
35 division, pursuant to this section, of microplastics, synthetic
36 polymer microparticles, or potential to generate secondary
37 microplastics, shall not alone constitute a trade secret. No later than
38 90 days after receipt of a trade secret claim, the division shall make
39 a determination on the validity of the trade secret claim. Upon
40 making a determination on the validity of a trade secret claim, the
41 division shall inform the manufacturer of the determination by
42 certified mail. If the division determines that the manufacturer's
43 trade secret claim is not valid, the manufacturer shall have 45 days
44 from the receipt of the division's determination to file with the
45 division a written request for an administrative hearing on the
46 determination. If the manufacturer does not file such a request
47 within 45 days, the division may take action to disclose the
48 information for which the trade secret claim was made, pursuant to

1 the provisions of this act. If a manufacturer requests an
2 administrative hearing pursuant to the provisions of this subsection,
3 the division shall refer the matter to the Office of Administrative
4 Law, for a hearing thereon. At the hearing the manufacturer shall
5 have the burden to show that the trade secret claim is valid. Within
6 45 days of receipt of the administrative law judge's
7 recommendation, the division shall affirm, reject, or modify the
8 recommendation. The division's action shall be considered the
9 final agency action for the purposes of the "Administrative
10 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), and shall be
11 subject only to judicial review as provided in the Rules of Court.
12 The division shall inform the manufacturer of its decision on the
13 administrative law judge's recommendation by certified mail.

14 c. The subject of any trade secret claim pending or approved
15 shall be treated as confidential information. The division shall not
16 disclose any confidential information to any person except an
17 officer or employee of the State in connection with the official
18 duties of the officer or employee under any law for the protection of
19 public health or the environment. Any officer or employee of the
20 State who has access to any confidential information, and who
21 willingly and knowingly discloses the confidential information to
22 any person not authorized to receive it, shall be guilty of a crime of
23 the third degree.

24 d. Any written notification containing information for which a
25 trade secret claim is pending or has been approved may be made
26 available to the public with that information concealed.

27
28 9. a. No later than one year after the effective date of this act,
29 the department shall establish and implement a source reduction
30 program to reduce the presence of microplastics in the State's air,
31 water, and soil by encouraging the proper management of materials
32 that contain microplastics and the use of safer alternatives. The
33 program shall include, at a minimum:

34 (1) informational resources targeted at industrial and commercial
35 users of microplastics;

36 (2) education of the general public concerning microplastics and
37 their environmental and health impacts;

38 (3) to the extent funds are available, grants to operators of
39 publicly owned treatment works for the purposes of developing,
40 expanding, or implementing pretreatment standards for
41 microplastics and education of users on sources of microplastics
42 and their proper management;

43 (4) to the extent that funds are available, grants to municipalities
44 for the purposes of educating solid waste disposal users on sources
45 of microplastics and their proper management; and

46 (5) any other information and efforts that are determined by the
47 department to be beneficial in reducing the presence and impact of
48 microplastics in the State.

1 b. No later than two years after the effective date of this act, and
2 annually thereafter until 10 years after the effective date of this act,
3 the department shall submit a report to the Governor and the
4 Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
5 19.1), on the effectiveness of the program in reducing microplastic
6 discharges to air, water, and soil within the State and educating
7 industrial and commercial users of microplastics and residents of
8 the State on microplastics and their proper management.

9
10 10. a. (1) The department shall, in consultation with the
11 Department of Health, conduct microplastics-related research and
12 develop a comprehensive microplastic monitoring and testing plan
13 to regularly test water, soil, and other environmental media, as
14 appropriate, for the presence of microplastics within the State,
15 including air, ground and surface water, biota, sediment, and soil.
16 The purpose of the department's research shall be to gain
17 knowledge surrounding the subject of microplastics, provide insight
18 into the proper management and mitigation of microplastics within
19 the State, and to protect the environment from the adverse impacts
20 of microplastics.

21 (2) The department's research shall include, at a minimum:

22 (a) the collection of soil, water samples, air samples, biosolids,
23 fish, plant, and animal samples from throughout the State for
24 monitoring and testing for microplastics;

25 (b) the comparison of microplastic samples gathered across the
26 State in an effort to measure levels of microplastic contamination,
27 and also to determine if there are any hotspots of microplastic
28 contamination in the State;

29 (c) research concerning the impact of microplastics on the State's
30 air, water, and soil quality;

31 (d) ways to mitigate the negative impacts of microplastics to
32 human health;

33 (e) an investigation into the primary sources and pathways of
34 environmental microplastic contamination;

35 (f) data collection of research findings and mitigation efforts
36 concerning microplastics in other States and countries;

37 (g) a summary of peer-reviewed research on methods to reduce
38 the introduction of microplastic into the environment;

39 (h) any other data collection and research that the department
40 deems necessary to improve the current foundation of knowledge on
41 the subject of microplastics; and

42 (i) recommended policy changes that will reduce the introduction
43 of microplastics into the environment.

44 (3) The department's testing plan shall, at a minimum:

45 (a) describe analytical methods available that are consistent with
46 the best available science;

47 (b) include testing for microplastics that originated from vehicle
48 tires; and

1 (c) be made publicly available on the department's Internet
2 website no later than two years following the effective date of this
3 act, and updated every twenty-four months thereafter.

4 b. (1) No later than three years following the effective date of
5 this act, the department shall, in consultation with the Department
6 of Health, adopt and publish a Statewide microplastics strategy
7 which shall include, but need not be limited to:

8 (a) the characterization of ambient concentrations of
9 microplastics in environmental media and an assessment of the
10 environmental and health impacts associated with microplastic
11 contamination using the best available preexisting scientific
12 research;

13 (b) an investigation of the sources and relative importance of
14 pathways associated with the environmental impacts of
15 microplastics determined to be significant pursuant to this section;

16 (c) a summary of existing scientific research on approaches for
17 reducing the introduction of microplastics into environmental media
18 from significant pathways of exposure, with an emphasis on the
19 sizes, shapes, and types of microplastics that are associated with
20 significant environmental impacts; and

21 (d) recommendations for policy changes, including statutory
22 changes or additional research that may be needed to reduce or
23 eliminate the presence of microplastics in environmental media.

24 (2) In developing and implementing the Statewide microplastics
25 strategy, the department may utilize existing information and
26 leverage ongoing efforts, where possible.

27 (3) The department shall update the microplastics strategy every
28 twenty-four months following its initial publication.

29
30 11. a. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
31 Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$2.5 million to
32 implement the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of this act. The
33 department shall utilize \$1.25 million for the purposes of carrying
34 out the source reduction program pursuant to section 8 of this act
35 and \$1.25 million for the purposes of conducting microplastics-
36 related research, monitoring, testing, and strategy development
37 pursuant to section 9 of this act.

38 b. Each year following the date of enactment of this act, the
39 department shall request annually, as a part of its budget proposal,
40 such amount as may be necessary to conduct the air, water, and soil
41 testing and microplastics-related research required pursuant section
42 8 of this act.

43 c. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
44 Department of Law and Public Safety the sum of \$500,000 to
45 implement the provisions of sections 1 through 7 of this act.

46
47 12. a. The Department of Environmental Protection may,
48 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410

1 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt rules or regulations necessary to
2 implement the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of this act.

3 b. The Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law
4 and Public Safety may, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure
5 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt rules or
6 regulations necessary to implement the provisions of sections 1
7 through 7 of this act.

8

9 13. This act shall take effect immediately.

10

11

12

STATEMENT

13

14 This bill would prohibit the sale of certain products containing
15 intentionally added microplastic substances, require greater
16 transparency in the labeling and disclosure of certain products
17 containing microplastics, establish a source reduction program
18 concerning the proper management of microplastics, and
19 appropriate money for microplastic research. As defined in the bill,
20 a microplastic is any material, five millimeters or less in diameter,
21 composed of synthetic polymers and chemical additives, that have
22 been added to a product over the course of the manufacturing or
23 industrial process. Synthetic polymer microparticle would be
24 defined to mean an artificial chain of monomer plastics, added to a
25 product or intentionally used during the development of a product
26 or one of its product components, to confer a specific characteristic,
27 appearance, or quality or to perform a specific function. This
28 would not include a technically unavoidable trace quantity of a
29 synthetic polymer microparticle stemming from impurities of
30 natural or synthetic ingredients or the manufacturing process,
31 storage, or migration from packaging of the product or product
32 component.

33 Specifically, the bill would prohibit, beginning three years after
34 the bill’s effective date, the sale, offer for sale, or distribution of
35 cleaning products, cosmetic products, or potentially ingestible
36 products (i.e. chewing gum, tea grounds, talcum powder, or pet
37 food) that contain intentionally added microplastics, microplastics,
38 products that could generate synthetic polymer microparticles, or
39 other secondary microplastics.

40 In the second year following the effective date of the act, any
41 manufacturer of cleaning, cosmetic, foodware, or potentially
42 ingestible product sold in the State, which product contains
43 intentionally added microplastics, or which could generate synthetic
44 polymer microparticles or other secondary microplastics, would be
45 required to list, in a product label, in the handle of the product or on
46 any product surface that comes into contact with food, foodstuffs,
47 or beverages, the presence of the intentionally added synthetic
48 polymer microparticles, or potential for generation of other

1 secondary microplastics. A manufacturer of a product sold in the
2 State would be required to ensure that the statement on the product
3 label pursuant to subsection is visible and legible to the consumer,
4 visible in both English and Spanish, and post the disclosure on the
5 product listing for online sales. This provision would ensure
6 adequate consumer awareness in the years between the gradual
7 phase-out of products containing intentionally added microplastics,
8 or products that could generate synthetic polymer microparticles or
9 other secondary microplastics, and the ban on all products
10 containing microplastics or their byproducts.

11 Products would be exempt from the labeling requirements of this
12 section if the surface area of the product cannot fit a product label
13 of at least two square inches; and the product does not have either
14 an exterior container or wrapper on which a product label can
15 appear or be affixed; or a tag or other attachment with information
16 about the product attached to the product. The provisions of the bill
17 would not apply to a product containing intentionally added
18 microparticles only in electronic or internal component of the
19 product. Any product with a product label listing the presence of
20 microplastics, or potential to generate synthetic polymer
21 microparticles or secondary microplastics, pursuant to another state
22 or federal law, would be deemed in compliance with the bill.

23 The bill would also require the DEP to recommend to the
24 Legislature products, in addition to those prohibited from being
25 sold, offered for sale, or distributed pursuant to the bill, by category
26 use, that should not be sold, offered for sale, or distributed for sale
27 in this State, if those products contain intentionally added
28 microplastics.

29 Under the bill, the Division of Consumer Affairs in the
30 Department of Law and Public Safety (division) would have the
31 authority to audit or investigate a manufacturer to assess the
32 manufacturer's compliance with bill's provisions. The bill would
33 provide that any trade secrets included in any written notification,
34 certification, or any other record submitted to the division pursuant
35 to the bill would be required to be kept confidential from the
36 general public pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.),
37 commonly known as the open public records act. However, the
38 disclosure that a product contains microplastics would not
39 constitute as a trade secret.

40 The bill would require the DEP to establish, no later than one
41 year after the bill's effective date, a source reduction program to
42 reduce the presence of microplastics in the State's air, water, and
43 soil by encouraging the proper management of materials that
44 contain microplastics and the use of safer alternatives. The
45 program would be required to include certain items enumerated in
46 subsection a. of section 9 of the bill. The bill would also require the
47 DEP to conduct microplastics-related research and comprehensive
48 monitoring and testing of the presence and impact of microplastics

1 on the environmental media within the State, including air, water,
2 biota, and soil. The DEP's research would be required to include
3 certain items enumerated in subsection a. of section 10 of the bill.
4 No later than two years after the bill's effective date, and annually
5 thereafter, the DEP would be required to submit a comprehensive
6 report to the Governor and the Legislature summarizing their
7 research findings and activities and providing recommendations for
8 programs, policies, and legislation to address the presence of
9 microplastics in the State.

10 Finally, the bill would appropriate \$2.5 million to the DEP for
11 the purposes of implementing the source reduction program,
12 conducting microplastics-related research, and monitoring and
13 testing environmental media, such as air, water, and soil, for
14 microplastics pursuant to the bill. The bill would additionally
15 appropriate \$500,000 to the Department of Law and Public Safety
16 to enforce product disclosures and bans.