

A RESOLUTION commending the Energy and Environment Cabinet for suspending crumb rubber grants and encouraging the cabinet to continue studying the health effects of recycled waste tires.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has sought solutions to waste tires and orphan waste tire landfills by encouraging the recycling of tires through grants under KRS 224.50-878; and

WHEREAS, several grants were made to schools, local governments, and private organizations to build new running surfaces, playground decks, and roads using shredded or recycled tires; and

WHEREAS, the Energy and Environment Cabinet suspended awarding grants from the program due to health and safety concerns with using crumb rubber after environmental groups, hospitals, doctors, universities, and the United States Environmental protection Agency expressed new concerns about the chemicals found in tire shreds; and

WHEREAS, Mount Sinai Children's Environmental Health Center stated there is a potential air and water contamination from tire shreds and that exposure by children and the unborn can cause birth defects, neurologic and developmental deficits, and even cancer; and

WHEREAS, chemicals causing the most concern include carbon black, arsenic, cadmium, and benzene; and

WHEREAS, tire shreds also contain phthalates, which are known hormonal disruptors; polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), which cause cancer and increase the chance of birth defects; and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which can cause asthma, eye and throat irritation, various types of cancer;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives commends the Energy and Environment Cabinet for suspending a program that potentially places the health and safety of the public at risk of disease and disability.

➔Section 2. The House of Representatives urges the Energy and Environment Cabinet to voluntarily study the health effects associated with using waste tires for downstream recycled products.

➔Section 3. The clerk of the House of Representative is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Secretary Leonard Peters, Energy and Environment Cabinet, 500 Mero Street, 5th Floor Capitol Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.