



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4175

Introduced 10/28/2025, by Rep. Kimberly Du Buclet

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

415 ILCS 5/52.5

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that, effective December 31, 2029, no person shall manufacture or accept for sale a personal care product that contains nonbiodegradable plastic glitter. Specifies that, until December 31, 2030, a person may continue to accept for sale an existing stock of personal care products containing nonbiodegradable plastic glitter that was acquired and transported into the State before December 31, 2029. Defines "nonbiodegradable plastic glitter". Effective January 1, 2028.

LRB104 15732 BDA 28916 b

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Environmental Protection Act is amended by
5 changing Section 52.5 as follows:

6 (415 ILCS 5/52.5)

7 Sec. 52.5. Microbeads and glitter in personal care
8 products; prohibited ~~Microbead-free waters.~~

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Nonbiodegradable plastic glitter" means a decorative
11 material, consisting of reflective particles of one or more
12 colors that are less than 2 millimeters in size, made of
13 nonbiodegradable plastic, precision-cut into various shapes
14 and sizes, and introduced into products to create a shimmering
15 effect by reflecting light.

16 "Over the counter drug" means a drug that is a personal
17 care product that contains a label that identifies the product
18 as a drug as required by 21 CFR 201.66. An "over the counter
19 drug" label includes:

20 (1) A drug facts panel; or

21 (2) A statement of the active ingredients with a list
22 of those ingredients contained in the compound, substance,
23 or preparation.

1 "Personal care product" means any article intended to be
2 rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or
3 otherwise applied to the human body or any part thereof for
4 cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering
5 the appearance, and any article intended for use as a
6 component of any such article. "Personal care product" does
7 not include any prescription drugs.

8 "Plastic" means a synthetic material made from linking
9 monomers through a chemical reaction to create an organic
10 polymer chain that can be molded or extruded at high heat into
11 various solid forms retaining their defined shapes during life
12 cycle and after disposal.

13 "Synthetic plastic microbead" means any intentionally
14 added non-biodegradable solid plastic particle measured less
15 than 5 millimeters in size and is used to exfoliate or cleanse
16 in a rinse-off product.

17 (b) The General Assembly hereby finds that microbeads, a
18 synthetic alternative ingredient to such natural materials as
19 ground almonds, oatmeal, and pumice, found in over 100
20 personal care products, including facial cleansers, shampoos,
21 and toothpastes, pose a serious threat to the State's
22 environment.

23 Microbeads have been documented to collect harmful
24 pollutants already present in the environment and harm fish
25 and other aquatic organisms that form the base of the aquatic
26 food chain. Recently, microbeads have been recorded in

1 Illinois water bodies, and in particular, the waters of Lake
2 Michigan.

3 Although synthetic plastic microbeads are a safe and
4 effective mild abrasive ingredient effectively used for gently
5 removing dead skin, there are recent concerns about the
6 potential environmental impact of these materials. More
7 research is needed on any adverse consequences, but a number
8 of cosmetic manufacturers have already begun a voluntary
9 process for identifying alternatives that allay those
10 concerns. Those alternatives will be carefully evaluated to
11 assure safety and implemented in a timely manner.

12 Without significant and costly improvements to the
13 majority of the State's sewage treatment facilities,
14 microbeads contained in products will continue to pollute
15 Illinois' waters and hinder the recent substantial economic
16 investments in redeveloping Illinois waterfronts and the
17 ongoing efforts to restore the State's lakes and rivers and
18 recreational and commercial fisheries.

19 (c) Effective December 31, 2017, no person shall
20 manufacture for sale a personal care product, except for an
21 over the counter drug, that contains synthetic plastic
22 microbeads as defined in this Section.

23 (d) Effective December 31, 2018, no person shall accept
24 for sale a personal care product, except for an over the
25 counter drug, that contains synthetic plastic microbeads as
26 defined in this Section.

1 (e) Effective December 31, 2018, no person shall
2 manufacture for sale an over the counter drug that contains
3 synthetic plastic microbeads as defined in this Section.

4 (f) Effective December 31, 2019, no person shall accept
5 for sale an over the counter drug that contains synthetic
6 plastic microbeads as defined in this Section.

7 (g) Effective December 31, 2029, no person shall
8 manufacture or accept for sale a personal care product that
9 contains nonbiodegradable plastic glitter; however, until
10 December 31, 2030, a person may continue to accept for sale an
11 existing stock of personal care products containing
12 nonbiodegradable plastic glitter that was acquired and
13 transported into the State before December 31, 2029.

14 (Source: P.A. 98-638, eff. 1-1-15.)

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
16 1, 2028.