

RESOLUTION NO. 957 -2014, DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES AND THE DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT TO EVALUATE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND OTHER IMPACTS OF BANNING PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS CONTAINING MICROBEADS

WHEREAS, this Legislature finds and determines that over the past ten (10) years, manufacturers of a variety of personal care products such as facial scrubs, body wash, toothpaste, soaps and shampoos added small polyethylene or polypropylene plastic beads, commonly known as microbeads, to their products; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature further finds that microbeads, with many measuring less than 1 millimeter, may not be filtered out by wastewater treatment systems; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature also finds that Suffolk County may be directly impacted by microbeads entering local waterways and the potential health hazards associated with fish and other wildlife ingesting microbeads; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature further finds that the State of Illinois has already banned personal care products containing microbeads and the federal government has introduced legislation to ban personal care products containing microbeads; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature finds that more information is required to determine the potential dangers of microbeads to the County and the effects, if any, of a County ban on personal care products containing microbeads; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services, in conjunction with the Division of Planning and Environment within the Department of Economic Development and Planning, is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to conduct a study to evaluate the health, economic, and other impacts that the ban of personal care products containing microbeads may have on the County and which shall include: results of existing and continuing research with regard to microbead use on Long Island; a report on which products containing microbeads are manufactured on Long Island; estimates of sales of products containing microbeads on Long Island; and the effects a ban on microbeads may have on the workforce on Long Island; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services shall provide an update on current testing protocols for microbeads in drinking water and surface waters and identify naturally occurring alternatives to microbeads; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Department of Health Services and the Planning Department shall complete this study and present a written report on its findings and recommendations to the County Executive and the County Legislature no later than ninety (90) days subsequent to the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF

RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: November 18, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: December 1, 2014