



**Statement by
Brian Ronholm
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Before the California Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
April 14, 2026**

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and committee members. I'm Brian Ronholm, Director of Food Policy for Consumer Reports, an independent nonprofit that works for a fair and just marketplace. I'm pleased to speak in support of AB 2302 by Assemblymember Rodriguez.

Consumer Reports recently conducted two testing projects of contaminants in infant formula. Our [study](#) in March 2025 found nearly half of the samples tested had potentially harmful levels of at least one contaminant, including the toxic elements listed in this bill.

A follow-up [study](#) earlier this year produced similar results with concerning levels detected in 26 of 49 formulas we tested.

However, there was also good news from these studies. First, our results showed that there are many safe, inexpensive formula options on the market today, and manufacturers can already make formulas without concerning levels of contaminants.

Second, many formula manufacturers explained to Consumer Reports that they already perform this kind of testing on their products, which means there would be minimal burden if this bill becomes law.

The concept of toxic elements being in infant formula can be scary. It's more troubling when parents can't access this information to evaluate risk. A recent national poll commissioned by Consumer Reports found that 90% of respondents indicated that infant formula manufacturers should be required to test for toxic elements and report the results.

An identical transparency requirement in California law is already working for baby food products. A separate [study](#) conducted by Consumer Reports and Unleaded Kids on the compliance of this law found that, while some companies need to improve the way results are disclosed, a number of manufacturers are providing test results in straightforward ways that consumers can understand.

AB 2302 would empower parents and caregivers with the information they need to feel confident about the infant formula they feed their babies. I ask for your support for this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.