



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose Peralta

## The State Senate Democratic Majority Passes Bill Requiring a warning label on baby-bottles and sippy cups

JOSE PERALTA June 29, 2010

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(Albany, NY) The State Senate Democratic Majority has passed legislation sponsored by State Senator Jose Peralta (D-Queens), Chair of the Consumer Protection Committee, requiring baby-bottles and sippy cups to carry a label warning consumers of the potential hazard of early childhood tooth decay and other dental issues resulting from the use of these products.

The sippy cup is often used for prolonged periods of time, including time spent sleeping and as use as a pacifier. During that time, sugary beverages other than water can pool in the child's mouth causing tooth decay.

According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, sippy cups are intended to wean a child off of a bottle and transition them into using a cup. The Academy adds further light to a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report comparing the dental health of Americans in 1988-1994 and 1999-2002. That report found that while cavities decreased among older children, cavities in two- to five-year-olds actually increased 15.2 percent.

Peralta said "Unfortunately, not every parent/caregiver knows the potential risks in prolonged use of a bottle or sip cup. And many children do not regularly see a dentist because of limited access to health care. This bill will go a long way in preventing early childhood dental problems and long term health issues."