

# House Memorial 1

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## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to enact legislation to modernize Toxic Substances Control Act.

## HOUSE MEMORIAL

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas American consumers deserve to have confidence that the products they buy, when used for their intended purposes, are safe; and

Whereas a federal chemical management program should place protection of public health, including children's health, as its highest priority, and should include strict government oversight; and

Whereas a federal chemical management program should preserve the role of the United States as the world's leading innovator and employer in the manufacture, processing, commercial distribution and use of chemicals; and

Whereas the current chemical management law, the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.), was signed into law in 1976 and is now 37 years old; and

Whereas since the enactment of the Toxic Substances Control Act our ability to understand the impact chemicals have on the human body and the environment has advanced significantly; and

Whereas advancements in science and technology need to be integrated into the federal chemical management program; and

Whereas momentum for modernization of the federal chemical regulatory system is growing; and

Whereas a robust federal chemical management system will obviate the need for state governments to adopt different and sometimes conflicting state regulatory programs that have the potential for negative impacts on the national economy; now, therefore,

### **Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon:**

(1) The Congress of the United States of America is respectfully requested to enact federal legislation to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.). Amendments to the Toxic Substances Control Act should strengthen chemicals management to:

(a) Ensure that chemicals are safe for their intended use;

(b) Require the Environmental Protection Agency to systematically prioritize chemicals for the purpose of assessing their safe use;

(c) Require that the Environmental Protection Agency act expeditiously and efficiently in assessing the safe use of chemicals;

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (d) Require companies that manufacture, import, process, distribute or use chemicals to provide  
2 the Environmental Protection Agency with relevant information to the extent necessary for the  
3 agency to make safe use determinations;

4 (e) Ensure that the potential risks to children from exposure to chemicals are considered in the  
5 assessment of safe use;

6 (f) Empower the Environmental Protection Agency to impose a range of risk management con-  
7 trols to ensure that chemicals are safe for their intended use;

8 (g) Encourage companies and the Environmental Protection Agency to work together to enhance  
9 public access to chemical health and safety information;

10 (h) Require that the Environmental Protection Agency rely on scientifically valid data and in-  
11 formation, regardless of source, including data and information reflecting modern advances in sci-  
12 ence and technology;

13 (i) Enable the Environmental Protection Agency to have the staff, resources and regulatory tools  
14 needed to ensure the safety of chemicals; and

15 (j) Ensure that the Toxic Substances Control Act remains a vehicle to promote and encourage  
16 technological innovation and the maintenance of a globally competitive industry in the United  
17 States.

18 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delega-  
19 tion.

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