

Protecting Public Safety, American Jobs and Innovation, and a Healthy Planet: A Balanced Approach to Reforming our Nation's Chemical Safety Laws

Chemical safety regulation affects everyone. From consumers and families to small-business owners and industry leaders, America's chemical safety laws have an enormous impact on all of our daily lives.

Congress is currently working to reform our nation's chemical safety laws, including revising or replacing The Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976. **While reform of this law is necessary and long overdue, Congress must take a balanced approach that protects public health and the environmental health of our planet, while also preserving American jobs and innovation.**

The Coalition for Chemical Safety strongly believes that, by working together, government, industry, and the public can achieve these goals. Some key factors that reform efforts must take into account include the following:

- The Toxic Substances Control Act, which has been law for more than thirty years, needs to be updated to **reflect scientific advances that allow us to better determine and understand the impact of certain chemicals on the human body and our environment.**
- Currently, many state and local governments have begun implementing their own regulations and restrictions of certain chemicals. We need **a national solution to this problem, rather than the patchwork of consumer protection laws that currently exists.**
- By encouraging the development of new, "green" chemicals, we can **ensure the continued safety of our communities while promoting American innovation and protecting our planet for generations to come.**
- Current chemical safety laws do not give the EPA sufficient power to ensure greater consumer safety. **Chemicals that pose the most potential safety risk to consumers should be the highest priority for testing.**
- Any reform of our chemical safety laws should **grant the EPA the power, people, and money it needs to aggressively implement and police the new regulations**, including substantial authority to restrict any chemicals that are determined unsafe for the purposes they are being marketed for and to permanently ban any chemicals that are deemed unsafe entirely.
- As Congress works to reform our chemical safety laws, they should not ignore the tens of thousands of **highly specialized, much-needed jobs supported by a viable, properly regulated chemical industry.**
- The chemical **industry represents tens of thousands of American families and plays a vital role in our economy, especially as we shift toward a more environmentally aware marketplace.** Innovative chemical products are integral to the new green American economy.