



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS®**

900 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202.833.7000
www.ibew.org

EDWIN D. HILL
International President

SAM J. CHILIA
International
Secretary-Treasurer

August 13, 2013

United States Senate
Senate Office Buildings
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the approximately 750,000 members and retirees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, I urge you to support and co-sponsor the *Chemical Safety Improvement Act of 2013* (S. 1009). The proposed bipartisan legislation amends and strengthens Title I of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), which regulates the safety of chemicals in commerce.

It is widely acknowledged that TSCA is not working as Congress intended. To fix this, the *Chemical Safety Improvement Act of 2013* (CSIA) strengthens TSCA and the federal regulation of chemicals used in commerce. CSIA will authorize the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to require that chemicals are screened before entering commerce. High priority chemicals will be subject to additional safety evaluations and EPA will be able to take timely action against chemicals found to be harmful to human health. These significant improvements have garnered support for CSIA from organizations such as the Environmental Defense Fund, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the New York Times, and the Washington Post, in addition to a growing number of unions and industry partners.

Unlike previous efforts to modernize TSCA, S. 1009 has generated balanced, bipartisan support. Leaders of both parties recognize the importance of improving TSCA by backing a reform bill with achievable needed improvements that can be passed with a strong majority. CSIA meets these requirements while improving EPA's ability to protect human health and the environment. Modernizing and improving TSCA takes on additional urgency as the chemical industry prepares to undertake large-scale reinvestment in United States-based production facilities in the wake of low natural gas prices.

In closing, I urge you to support and co-sponsor S. 1009. To co-sponsor, please contact Jan Brunner in Senator Manchin's office at (202) 224-3954 or via E-mail at jan_brunner@manchin.senate.gov or Dimitri Karakitsos in Senator Vitter's office at (202) 224-6176 or via E-mail at dimitri_karakitsos@vitter.senate.gov.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edwin D. Hill
International President

EDH:lgd