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KATHLEEN G. KANE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 21, 2015

The Honorable Senator Robert Casey
Washington, D.C.
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: S. 697, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st
Century Act**

Dear Senator Casey,

Thank you for the hard work being undertaken by the Senate on the above referenced bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). I know that it has significant bipartisan support and is the result of lengthy negotiations in consultation with environmental activists, employers, manufacturers, the EPA, the White House, labor organizations, nonprofit organizations and state governments. I am writing today to encourage your continued efforts on this important legislation.

In a letter submitted on March 18, 2015, the Hon. Patrick Morrissey, Attorney General of my neighboring State of West Virginia, wrote to you about this legislation. In that letter, he appropriately pointed out that existing law fails to secure data regarding public health and environmental threats posed by approximately 62,000 chemicals which were exempted from the TSCA when it was passed. When West Virginia suffered a significant chemical spill, every attorney general in the nation was concerned to learn that little information was available regarding the hazardous materials that had been released in one of our sister states.

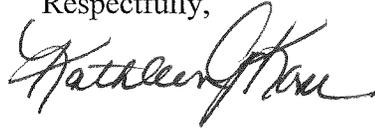
S.697 includes language that would establish a framework for the systematic evaluation of all active chemicals and requires additional safety reviews of high-priority substances. This would give each state added protection should a spill occur within its borders.

I know that the efforts to improve the TSCA have long been stalled due to politics. I applaud the efforts to pass new bipartisan legislation designed to strengthen safety standards review new and existing chemicals and emphasize protections for children, pregnant women, infants, workers and the elderly.

I am also aware that some of my colleagues have expressed concerns regarding the preemptive nature of this federal regulatory legislation. I certainly wish to thank the sponsors for making efforts to grandfather in all existing state laws and regulations designed to protect our citizens and our environment. I ask that the Senate continue to give strong consideration to the work being done at the state level; the State and the Federal Government can be and should be partners in protecting that which is precious to all of us.

If I may be of service to you with respect to this legislation, preemption concerns, or any other matter, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Kane", written in a cursive style.

Kathleen G. Kane
Attorney General

cc: Honorable Patrick Toomey