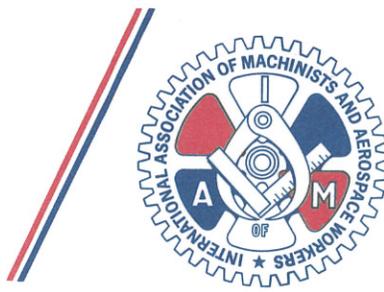


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

March 10, 2015

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, I respectfully ask that you consider co-sponsoring the *Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act*, introduced by Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) and Senator David Vitter (R-LA). This bill is the result of an ongoing bipartisan effort to amend and strengthen Title I of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) regulating the safety of chemicals in commerce. As you know, we have supported this effort since 2013.

The *Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act* is a workable compromise that is politically achievable and will provide the EPA with greater authority to effectively regulate chemicals in commerce, protect public and worker health, and protect the environment. The *Act* will require EPA to screen chemicals before they enter commerce and provide a list of all chemicals in active commerce. It gives EPA the authority to classify chemicals as high or low priority for safety testing, and to take timely action against chemicals found to be harmful to human health. The *Act* sets achievable schedules for testing and a fee structure to provide EPA with resources for testing, and defines regulatory roles for the federal and state governments. Significant work has been accomplished to clarify the federal-state relationship on regulation. EPA will be responsible for high priority chemical safety evaluations and regulation, and states will have authority to regulate in the absence of EPA action, retain existing regulations made before 2015, and preserve existing labeling requirements like California's Proposition 65.

A strengthened federal chemical regulatory system will protect health and the environment, and allow the U.S. chemical industry to maintain its global leadership, innovate, and provide good jobs. As a representative of workers in both the Chemical and Freight Rail industries, we believe the *Act* will improve federal chemical safety regulation to the benefit of our people and our economy. Again, I respectfully urge you to support this important legislation.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (301) 967-4575.

Sincerely,

R. Thomas Buffenbarger
International President