

The Alan Reinstein and Trevor Schaefer Toxic Chemical Protection Act

Summary

Protects Public Health

The bill better protects public health by –

- Requiring EPA to use a stronger standard to judge whether chemicals are safe.
- Requiring EPA to review more chemicals more quickly.
- Requiring swift action on cancer-causing asbestos.
- Requiring immediate attention on chemicals that accumulate in our bodies and the environment (known as Persistent, Bioaccumulative Toxics, or PBTs).
- Ensuring that EPA’s assessments of chemicals are consistent with recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences.
- Requiring EPA to consider the threat a chemical substance poses to drinking water supplies, including from nearby storage, when prioritizing substances for review.
- Making clearer which chemicals EPA can designate as needing review (“high priority”) or considered as safe without a full review (“low priority”).
- Ensuring that all chemicals in the marketplace are ultimately assessed by EPA.
- Preserving EPA’s authority to regulate products and mixtures containing dangerous chemicals.
- Preserving EPA’s authority to monitor imports of chemicals and mixtures and products that contain them.
- Broadly preserving the authority of states to restrict the use of chemicals, and enforce federal restrictions under state law.

Gives the Public a Voice

The bill gives the public greater voice to ensure it is protected by –

- Providing citizens the explicit right to challenge low priority designations in court.

Ensures States Can Protect Their Citizens

The bill allows states to continue to protect their citizens from dangerous chemicals by –

- Not allowing EPA to preempt state authority.
- Continuing to allow states to enforce federal restrictions on chemicals.