

# Safer Chemicals Healthy Families

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# Who We Are

- Health-affected Groups
- Health Professionals
- National and State Environmental Groups
- Environmental Justice Groups
- Concerned Parents
- Businesses



# Why We're Uniting

First time in a generation: chance for real reform  
of Toxic Substances Control Act of **1976**



# Real World Impacts



# Toxic chemicals in unexpected places

- Unbound BPA found in 11 out of 22 thermal receipts from 10 different states (up to 2.2% by weight)
- BPA found on 21 out of 22 dollar bills tested



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**REPORT** 

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# President's Cancer Panel Report



[TSCA is an] *“egregious example of ineffective regulation on environmental contaminants”* May, 2010

# TSCA by the numbers

## Number of chemicals

**62,000** Existing Chemicals as of 1976

**200** Evaluated by EPA since 1976

**5** Banned under TSCA since 1976

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**0** Banned under TSCA since 1990

[U.S. Government Accountability Office, 2005]

**20,000+** New Chemicals Added Since 1979

# Moment(um) for Reform

- **Chemical industry** demanding change/changing: Europe's REACH system, Canada
- **States** step into the void: 18 states have passed 71 chemical safety laws with strong bi-partisan support in recent years
- **Consumers driving change:** Wal-Mart caught with baby bottles it doesn't want; Staples, Kaiser, looking to weed out bad chemicals also



# Growing Consensus for Change



“...the issue that is closest to my heart is reforming the federal law governing chemicals—the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)...If there's one thing I think I can bring about, it will be chemical management reform—real reform that looks toward a greener chemistry.”

May 10, 2010

Chemical and Engineering News

# What we want

Platform:

**1) *Quick Action*** on the Worst Chemicals

**2) *Information*** for All Chemicals

**3) *Protection*** for the Most Vulnerable



# Because consumer power alone won't solve this crisis...

- Congressional leadership emerges
- Sen. Lautenberg (D-NJ), Sen. Boxer (D-CA), Sen. Franken (D-MN), Sen. Klobuchar (D-MN), Sen. Schumer (D-NY)



# The Safe Chemicals Act

## What the bill does:

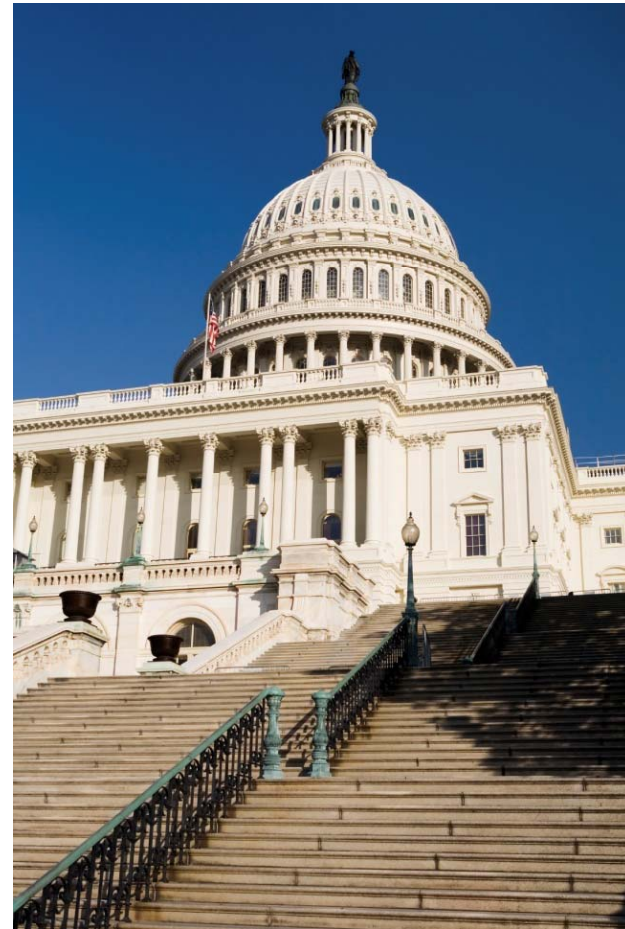
- **Increases chemical safety** by requiring chemical manufacturers to show a chemical is safe before it ends up on the market
- Takes **immediate action to reduce exposure** to worst chemicals
- **Protects vulnerable subpopulations:** pregnant women, children, disproportionately affected communities
- Creates action plans to reduce **exposure in “hot spot” communities**
- Requires **basic health and safety information** on all chemicals
- Provides incentives for innovation, creating safer chemicals
- **Removes the burden** on American consumers to find safe products for their families

# We Need YOUR Help!



# Campaign in your community

- Raise your voice for reduced exposure to toxic chemicals
- Write letters to key decision-makers
- Submit Opinion pieces
- Help us make sure chemical safety is a priority



# Join the fun!

Sign up to become the newest coalition member at [www.saferchemicals.org](http://www.saferchemicals.org) and

**MAKE a SPLASH in YOUR COMMUNITY!**



[www.saferchemicals.org](http://www.saferchemicals.org)



**Survey says:**  
84% of  
Americans  
favor  
tightening  
controls on  
chemicals

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