



AmericanCoatings
ASSOCIATIONSM

May 14, 2015

The Honorable John Shimkus
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment and
the Economy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Environment and the Economy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shimkus and Ranking Member Tonko:

On behalf of the American Coatings Association (ACA), I am writing to thank you for the focus you have placed on updating the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), a statute that is no longer adequate to protect public health and safety. Updating TSCA so the law ensures the safe use of chemicals, encourages the development of new products, and protects American jobs continues to be a top priority for the paint and coatings industry.

ACA is a voluntary, non-profit trade association working to advance the needs of the paint and coatings industry and the professionals who work in it. The organization represents approximately 250 paints, coatings, adhesives, sealants and caulks manufacturers, raw materials suppliers, distributors, and technical professionals. ACA's membership represents over 90 percent of the total domestic production of paints and coatings in the country. The manufacture, sale, and distribution of paints and coatings are a \$20 billion dollar industry in the United States.

Thanks to your leadership and commitment to this important issue, the draft and the Subcommittee markup show we are closer to achieving reform than ever before. The TSCA Modernization Act offers a meaningful opportunity for bipartisan reform of a status quo that, everyone agrees, is no longer effective at protecting our population. In the revised draft, EPA is provided authority to mandate the submission of new information on chemicals, conduct risk evaluations on priority chemicals according to clear deadlines, and review claims to protect confidential business information. EPA's risk decisions must be based on health and environmental considerations, not costs or benefits. Importantly, the draft provides for a strong and cohesive federal system of regulating chemicals, while maintaining a role for states.

We look forward to the Subcommittee's and full Energy and Commerce Committee's swift consideration of the draft TSCA Modernization Act of 2015. Along with the recent passage by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee of the "Frank Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act" (S. 697), your efforts are important to achieving much-needed TSCA reform this year.

Sincerely,

Andrew Doyle
President and CEO