

Summary of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act

April 2, 2015

On March 10, 2015, United States Senators Tom Udall (D-NM) and David Vitter (R-LA) introduced the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (the bill). With 21 senators, including 11 Democrats, cosponsoring the legislation, this bipartisan bill has a substantial chance of passing the U.S. Senate and, depending on the actions of the U.S. House of Representatives, being signed into law by the President.

The bill would overhaul the core provisions (title I) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The bill would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency) to identify all chemical substances that are “active” in U.S. commerce, screen and prioritize them for safety assessments and safety determinations, and impose restrictions or prohibitions on any uses of chemical substances that do not meet a purely risk-based safety standard.

The bill also would simplify EPA's authority to require companies to perform testing, enhance review of industry claims that information submitted to EPA should be kept confidential, and allow the Agency to assess new fees to pay for the implementation of new activities under TSCA.

Finally, the bill would limit the ability of state and local governments to establish or maintain chemical control laws after January 1, 2015 that duplicate or conflict with federal requirements under TSCA.

Dentons' bill summary describes in detail the major changes that the bill would make to the existing TSCA.

[Click here to view our full bill summary.](#)

[Click here for the full bill text.](#)

Here are the Five Things to Know About a Modernized Toxic Substances Control Act.

Learn more at our Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Seminar: Fundamentals and More.

For more information about Dentons' Chemicals Pesticides and Product Regulation team, [click here.](#)

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