

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 24, 2016

Dear Colleague:

As the House co-chairs of the Congressional Semiconductor Caucus, we are writing to urge your support for the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (HR 2576). This bipartisan legislation will be considered in the House later today.

The sound regulation of chemicals is critical to our environment and economic growth. The current federal chemicals law – the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) – has not been modernized since its enactment in 1976, and Congress now has a historic opportunity to enact much needed reforms. While some have concerns with a few of the bill's provisions, the compromise legislation increases the protection of public health and safety while also ensuring that our semiconductor industry remains innovative.

Semiconductors – the fundamental enabling technology for all modern electronics – are an essential part of U.S. economic growth, technology leadership, and national security, and the manufacturing of advanced semiconductors requires the industry's ability to use essential chemicals in a controlled manner that protects health and the environment. Semiconductor manufacturing requires the use of chemicals that are selected for their unique chemical and physical attributes, and in most cases, there are no viable alternatives. Passage of this bill would bolster environmental and health protections against dangerous chemicals, while also supporting the success of an industry that employs 250,000 Americans (and indirectly supports approximately 1.1 million additional jobs) and is one of our country's top three manufactured exports.

We urge you to support this bipartisan legislation. Please contact Ryan Ethington (Sessions) (ryan.ethington@mail.house.gov), or ZJ Hull (Lofgren) (zj.hull@mail.house.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Pete Sessions, TX-32
Caucus Co-Chair



Zoe Lofgren, CA-19
Caucus Co-chair