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(Original Signature of Member)

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6468

To direct that certain assessments with respect to toxicity of chemicals be carried out by the program offices of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## A BILL

To direct that certain assessments with respect to toxicity of chemicals be carried out by the program offices of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Science in  
5 Chemical Assessments Act”.

1 office determines there is a need for such an assessment.  
2 Such an assessment shall be carried out using the sci-  
3 entific standards specified in section 7B and be based on  
4 the weight of the scientific evidence.

5 “(c) TOXICITY VALUES.—In carrying out a covered  
6 assessment with respect to a chemical substance under  
7 subsection (a), the relevant program office shall assign a  
8 toxicity value or values, when scientifically supported by  
9 the available data, for such chemical substance. With re-  
10 spect to that assignment, the following shall apply:

11 “(1) When supported by the available data, the  
12 toxicity value or values shall include a range of point  
13 estimates of risk as well as sources and magnitudes  
14 of uncertainty associated with the estimates.

15 “(2) When multiple point estimates can be de-  
16 veloped, the relevant program office shall—

17 “(A) consider all datasets; and

18 “(B) make a determination about how best  
19 to represent the human health risk posed by the  
20 chemical substance involved.

21 “(d) CHEMICAL ASSESSMENT DATABASE.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A toxicity value or values  
23 assigned to a chemical substance under subsection  
24 (c) shall be included in a chemical assessment data-  
25 base to be maintained by the Office of Research and

1 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 “(1) The term ‘covered assessment’ means, with  
3 respect to the evaluation of the human health effects  
4 resulting from chronic exposure to a chemical sub-  
5 stance, a chemical hazard identification and dose re-  
6 sponse assessment (as such terms are defined by the  
7 Environmental Protection Agency on the day before  
8 the date of the enactment of this Act).

9 “(2) The term ‘relevant program office’ in-  
10 cludes the following offices of the Environmental  
11 Protection Agency:

12 “(A) The Office of Water.

13 “(B) The Office of Air and Radiation.

14 “(C) The Office of Land and Emergency  
15 Management.

16 “(D) The Office of Chemical Safety and  
17 Pollution Prevention.

18 “(E) Any successor to an office specified in  
19 subparagraphs (A) through (D) and any other  
20 office determined to be relevant by the Adminis-  
21 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

22 **“SEC. 7A. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND DOSE RESPONSE**  
23 **STEERING COMMITTEE.**

24 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 30 days after  
25 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator

1           “(1) CHAIR.—The steering committee shall be  
2           chaired by the Assistant Administrator of the Office  
3           of Research and Development of the Environmental  
4           Protection Agency.

5           “(2) COMPOSITION.—The steering committee  
6           shall be composed of 15 members, all of whom shall  
7           be active, full-time employees of the Environmental  
8           Protection Agency, with at least one member rep-  
9           resenting each relevant program office and each re-  
10          gional office of the Environmental Protection Agen-  
11          cy. The members of the steering committee shall be  
12          appointed by the Administrator of the Environ-  
13          mental Protection Agency. Any vacancy shall be  
14          filled in the same manner as the initial appointment.

15          “(d) MEETINGS.—The steering committee shall meet  
16          at least once each calendar year.

17          “(e) THIRD PARTY ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS.—  
18          The requirements specified in this subsection with respect  
19          to a third-party assessment of a chemical substance are  
20          that the assessment —

21                 “(1) is conducted using scientific standards  
22                 specified in section 7B;

23                 “(2) has undergone independent scientific re-  
24                 view for transparency, completeness, and quality;  
25                 and

1 a manner that honors legal and ethical obligations to  
2 reduce the risks of unauthorized disclosure and re-  
3 identification;

4 “(4) the extent to which the variability and un-  
5 certainty in the scientific information, or in the pro-  
6 cedures, measures, methods, protocols, methodolo-  
7 gies, or models, are evaluated and characterized;

8 “(5) the extent of independent verification or  
9 peer review of the scientific information or of the  
10 procedures, measures, methods, protocols, meth-  
11 odologies, or models;

12 “(6) the ability of the scientific findings and re-  
13 search to be replicated or reproduced; and

14 “(7) the extent to which the available scientific  
15 information supports dose-response modeling, using  
16 non-linear approaches.”