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US PROPOSES TO RESTRICT FLAME RETARDANTS IN CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

The US Congress has recently introduced a proposal to restrict 10 flame retardants in children's products and upholstered furniture. If signed into law, the Act will take effect on the date of enactment.

On 15 September 2014, the US Congress introduced S.2811 '**Children and Fire Fighters Protection Act of 2014**' to restrict ten flame retardants in children's products or upholstered furniture. The chemicals are generally halogenated flame retardants, with antimony trioxide as the only inorganic substance included on the list.

The proposal also calls the Commission to appoint a Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel (CHAP) to study the effects on human health of all chemical flame retardants that may be used in children's products or upholstered furniture and to make recommendations. The Commission shall evaluate the findings and to promulgate a final rule within 180 days upon receipt of the report from CHAP.

The proposal would take effect on the date of enactment and the restriction of the flame retardants would be enforced 1 year after the date of enactment.

Highlights of the proposal are summarised in Table 1.



TABLE 1.

S. 2811 (113TH CONGRESS) CHILDREN AND FIRE FIGHTERS PROTECTION ACT OF 2014						
ITEM	FLAME RETARDANT	ACRONYM	CAS	SCOPE	REQUIREMENT	ENFORCEMENT DATE
1	Antimony trioxide	---	1309-64-4	- Children’s products - Upholstered furniture	≤ 1000 ppm	1 year after enactment
2	Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)-3,4,5,6-tetrabromophthalate	TBPH	26040-51-7		≤ 1000 ppm	
3	Chlorinated paraffins	SCCP	85535-84-8		≤ 1000 ppm	
4	Decabromodiphenyl ether	DecaBDE	1163-19-5		≤ 1000 ppm	
5	2-Ethylhexyl-2,3,4,5-tetrabromobenzoate	TBB	183658-27-7		≤ 1000 ppm	
6	Hexabromocyclododecane	HBCD	25637-99-4		≤ 1000 ppm	
7	Tetrabromobisphenol A	TBBPA	79-94-7		≤ 1000 ppm	
8	Tris(2-chloroethyl)phosphate	TCEP	115-1496-8		≤ 1000 ppm	
9	Tris (1-chloro-2-propyl) phosphate	TCPP	13674-84-5		≤ 1000 ppm	
10	Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate	TDCPP	13674-87-8		≤ 1000 ppm	
REMARK						
- Not more than 180 days after the date of enactment, Commission shall appoint CHAP to evaluate all flame retardants that may be used in children’s products or upholstered furniture - Commission shall evaluate report from CHAP and to promulgate a final rule						

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for flame retardants and other restricted substances in consumer products for the US, EU and international markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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