
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PHASE OUT OF PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF
DECABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND ALL OTHER POLYBROMINATED
DIPHENYL ETHERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

1 WHEREAS, polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) have been
2 used extensively as fire retardants in many common household
3 products for the past 30 years; and
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5 WHEREAS, major producers of fire retardants have committed
6 to producing effective live-saving fire retardants that have a
7 minimal impact on the environment; and
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9 WHEREAS, on December 17, 2009, as the result of
10 negotiations with the United States (U.S.) Environmental
11 Protection Agency, the two U.S. producers of the PBDE
12 decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE), Albemarle Corporation and
13 Chemtura Corporation, and the largest U.S. importer, ICL
14 Industrial Products, Inc., announced commitments to phase out
15 decaBDE in the United States; and
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17 WHEREAS, decaBDE is a flame retardant which has been used
18 in electronics, wire and cable insulation, textiles, automobiles
19 and airplanes, and other applications; and
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21 WHEREAS, these companies have committed to end production,
22 importation, and sales of decaBDE for most uses in the U.S. by
23 December 31, 2012, and to end all uses by the end of 2013; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has also
26 announced its intent to encourage the other minor importers of
27 decaBDE to join this initiative; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
30 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
31 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature supports



1 this phase out of production and importation of decaBDE and all
2 other PBDEs in the U.S.; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages the
5 Environmental Protection Agency to continue its efforts to
6 encourage the remaining minor importers of decaBDE to end their
7 importation of decaBDE into the U.S.; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the
11 United States Environmental Protection Agency and to Hawaii's
12 congressional delegation.