
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PHASE OUT OF PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF
DECABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (DECA-BDE) AND ALL OTHER
POLYBROMINATED DIPHENYL ETHERS (PBDES) 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 thirty years; and
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5 WHEREAS, studies on animals show that PBDEs can affect
6 behavior and learning after birth and into adulthood, making
7 exposure to fetuses and children a particular concern; and
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9 WHEREAS, PBDEs have the potential to disrupt thyroid
10 hormone balance and contribute to a variety of developmental
11 learning disabilities, and may also have the potential to cause
12 cancer; and
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14 WHEREAS, substantial efforts to eliminate PBDEs from
15 consumer products have been made throughout the world in both
16 the private and public sectors, and these efforts have produced
17 numerous safe alternatives that meet stringent fire code
18 standards; and
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20 WHEREAS, on December 17, 2009, as the result of
21 negotiations with the United States Environmental Protection
22 Agency, the two U.S. producers of the PBDE decabromodiphenyl
23 ether (decaBDE), Albemarle Corporation and Chemtura Corporation,
24 and the largest U.S. importer, ICL Industrial Products, Inc.,
25 announced commitments to phase out decaBDE in the United States;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, decaBDE is a flame retardant which has been used
29 in electronics, wire and cable insulation, textiles, automobiles
30 and airplanes, and other applications; and
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