
SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PHASE OUT OF PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF
DECABROMODIPHENYL ETHER (DECABDE) 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, major producers of fire retardants have committed
6 to producing effective life saving fire retardants that have
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 Environmental Protection
11 Agency, the two U.S. producers of the PBDE decabromodiphenyl
12 ether (decaBDE), Albemarle Corporation and Chemtura Corporation,
13 and the largest U.S. importer, ICL Industrial Products, Inc.,
14 announced commitments to voluntarily phase out decaBDE in the
15 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 United
23 States by December 31, 2012, and to end all uses by the end of
24 2013; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has also
27 announced its intent to encourage the other minor importers of
28 decaBDE to join this initiative; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,
32 that the Legislature supports this phase out of production and
33 importation of decaBDE and all other PBDEs in the United States;
34 and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages the Environmental Protection Agency to continue its efforts to encourage the remaining minor importers of decaBDE to end their importation of decaBDE into the United States; and

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

