



News Release

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ACC EXPRESSES CONCERN WITH SAFE CHEMICALS ACT *Reaffirms Commitment to Working with Congress to Update TSCA*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 17, 2011) – *In testimony before a joint legislative hearing of the full Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Subcommittee on Superfund, Toxics and Environmental Health, American Chemistry Council (ACC) President and CEO Cal Dooley expressed the Council's concerns with S. 847, the "Safe Chemicals Act," and reiterated a desire to continue to work with Congress to update the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).*

"ACC strongly supports efforts to reform the 35-year old Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)," said Dooley. "We need an effective and reliable chemical regulatory system that will instill in policymakers, our business partners and the public the same level of confidence in our products that we have."

"In recent months, ACC and other stakeholders have engaged with bipartisan committee staff to discuss our respective positions about legislation to update TSCA," he said. "Unfortunately, though, today we are discussing a bill that remains very similar to the bill introduced in 2010, which we consider unworkable."

In his testimony Dooley outlined several fundamental flaws with the bill, including an unachievable safety standard, data requirements that would undermine the success of the current program to evaluate new chemicals, the creation of an overly burdensome and unnecessary minimum date set for all chemicals, and the lack of an effective prioritization process.

"We also believe that S. 847 would compromise the protection of confidential business information, inappropriately expand the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) authority into the jurisdiction of other federal agencies such as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), further complicate issues surrounding national uniformity of standards, and fail to adequately consider animal welfare," he continued.

"Even though S. 847 is not the answer, we remain fully committed to TSCA reform," he concluded. "We believe we can develop legislation that will give consumers confidence, learns from the success and missteps of reforms undertaken by other countries, and fosters innovation and job creation."

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy



designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$720 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

