



Statement

For Immediate Release

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PLASTICS MAKERS WORK TO PREVENT MARINE DEBRIS, SUPPORT PHASE OUT OF MICROBEADS IN PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

WASHINGTON, May 16, 2014 – *Illinois, New York, and other states are considering legislation to eliminate the use of microbeads in personal care products even as many product makers are working to discontinue the use of microbeads voluntarily. The American Chemistry Council supports legislation in Illinois ([SB2727](#)) that also is widely embraced by NGOs and personal care product manufacturers. The following statement may be attributed to the American Chemistry Council:*

“We and our members are working hard to prevent plastics from becoming marine debris by promoting proper use, handling, recycling and recovery of these valuable materials. We support the efforts of personal care product companies to phase out the intentional addition of plastic microbeads as is consistent with widely supported legislation in Illinois.”

“Through the American Chemistry Council, America’s plastics makers have helped lead the development of the plastic’s industry’s “[Global Declaration on Solutions for Marine Litter](#),” which has been signed by more than sixty plastics associations in 34 countries. Through this initiative, more than 140 projects focused on researching, preventing or reducing marine debris are underway around the globe.

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About the Plastics Division

The American Chemistry Council’s [Plastics Division](#) represents leading companies dedicated to providing innovative solutions to the challenges of today and tomorrow through plastics. Ongoing innovations from America’s plastics makers have led to medical advances and safety equipment that make our lives better, healthier and safer every day. And advances in plastics are helping Americans save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and decrease waste. Because plastics are such a valuable resource, the Plastics Division is leading efforts to “reduce, reuse, recycle and recover,” including through outreach, education and access to advances in recycling technology.

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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 \$770 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters,



accounting for twelve percent of all 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.

