

Environment & Energy

California Advances Ban on 'Forever Chemicals' in Cosmetics

By Zach Bright

Aug. 24, 2022, 1:25 PM

A ban on "forever chemicals" in cosmetics is headed to California Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk after clearing the state legislature.

The bill, A.B. 2771, would prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution of cosmetics containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)—a wide-ranging chemical class found everywhere from carpets and cookware to food packaging. Newsom (D) is expected to sign the bill, which received a 31-7 vote in the state Senate and final 60-7 vote in the state Assembly.

"We applaud California's lawmakers who have taken an important step in protecting consumers from the toxins lurking in our everyday lives and urge legislators in D.C. to do the same. Congress must act to ensure that no American is exposed to dangerous 'forever chemicals' or other toxins through the products they use everyday," said Emily Rogers, an advocate for the Public Interest Research Group's Zero Out Toxics program.

1. The measure, which would take effect in 2025 if signed into law, could put California in the forefront of chemical regulations for consumer products.
2. The California legislation acknowledges that PFAS is "highly toxic and highly persistent in the environment." Exposure to PFAS has been linked to human health issues including cancers, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.
3. Federal bills have been introduced to revise personal care product standards and limit PFAS and other chemicals in cosmetics, including S. 2100, H.R. 3990, S. 2047, and H.R. 5540, but they haven't gained significant traction.
4. Other states' efforts for similar restrictions have come up short. Washington state lawmakers were unable to pass a ban on PFAS and other chemicals in cosmetics in March.

To contact the reporter on this story: Zach Bright at zbright@bloombergindustry.com

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Renee Schoof at rschoof@bloombergindustry.com

Related Articles

[Washington State OKs Faster PFAS Regulation, Not Cosmetics Ban](#)

March 11, 2022, 10:34 AM

Topics

consumer protection
state product liability and safety legislation
state environmental legislation
chemical product safety
cosmetic product safety
PFAS

© 2022 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. All Rights Reserved