

[DATE]

Assembly Member William Monning
State Capitol Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

via fax (916) 319-2127

Re: AB 553 - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Monning:

On behalf of [FILL IN NAME OF ORGANIZATION], we write in support of Assembly Bill 553. Thank you for authoring this bill.

We support the bill because it will make more efficient and less costly the process for setting permissible exposure limits (PELs) and better protect workers exposed to toxic chemicals. We believe that PELs should be based on sound scientific evidence developed by specified governmental agencies when those agencies have already addressed the chemical to be regulated.

[BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANIZATION HERE, how many workers the union represents, type of work, etc. IF YOU KNOW, please also mention any chemicals to which your members are exposed and what the effects are (again, if you know).]

Under the current law it can take many years before new or revised PELs are adopted for various chemicals despite the fact that government data exists or becomes available regarding the dangers posed by a toxic substance. It is not necessary to duplicate the efforts of specified agencies, in particular the California Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, or the United States National Toxicology Program Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction, when those agencies have already researched and prepared quantitative risk assessments for chemicals that cause cancer or reproductive, developmental or other serious harm.

We support AB 553 because we need protective standards for the most dangerous workplace chemical exposures. It is important to move as swiftly as possible to adopt protective PELs when we have information about the risks posed by toxics that cause cancer or other serious harm. This bill will streamline and expedite the PEL setting process and ensure that workers will be better protected and less likely to become ill or die prematurely as a result of exposure to those toxic materials. Thank you for your commitment to worker health and safety.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME and TITLE (if any)]
[YOUR ORGANIZATION]
[YOUR ADDRESS]
[YOUR EMAIL and/or PHONE NUMBER]