



PREVENTION STARTS HERE.

March 19, 2013

Senator Bill Monning
State Capitol Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 90301

Re: SB 193 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Monning:

On behalf of the Breast Cancer Fund, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 193.

The Breast Cancer Fund is the only national organization focused solely on breast cancer prevention by identifying and advocating to eliminate the environmental causes of breast cancer. Many toxic chemicals, including those that are common in the workplace, have been shown to increase risk of breast cancer. It is vital that women and men be protected from these and other harmful chemicals both at work and at home.

Under current law, the Hazardous Evaluation System and Information Service (HESIS) provides information on the practical uses of chemicals to employers and employees. One of the reasons HESIS was established was to be able to provide early warnings of potential harm to employees and employers. However, due to limitations of current law, HESIS is unable to obtain information on the location of where certain toxic chemicals are used in California, which severely limits its ability to inform specific employers and workers about the dangers that may be present in a given workplace.

SB 193 would require chemical manufacturers and others in the chain of distribution to provide, upon written request, the names and addresses of customers who have purchased specified toxics or commercial products containing those toxics, and SB 193 also assures that the customer lists will remain confidential.

SB 193 assures that HESIS can reach and advise employers on measures needed to protect their workers, including information on safer alternatives, when HESIS has information regarding negative health impacts of certain toxic chemicals. HESIS will be able to target those at risk rather than merely posting its valuable guidance to limit exposure and prevent disease on the web with no guarantee it will reach those in need. As workers are often exposed to toxics whose health effects are not all known, HESIS's ability to act quickly and efficiently is vital to protect workers' health and safety.

We thank you for authoring this important bill.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeanne Rizzo".

Jeanne Rizzo, RN
President and CEO