



# WAREHOUSE, PROCESSING & DISTRIBUTION WORKERS' UNION

## LOCAL 26

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S AND WAREHOUSEMEN'S UNION

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June 16, 2013

Assembly Member Bob Wieckowski, Chair  
Assembly Judicial Committee  
1020 N Street Room 104  
Sacramento, CA 95814

By Facsimile  
(916) 319-2188

Re: **SB 193 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Wieckowski:

Our Union, Local 26 ILWU, is writing in strong support of SB 193 by State Senate Member William Monning.

Local 26 represents workers in various industries from Fresno to San Diego, working with known and unknown substances in the production of products, as well as the environment where these chemicals are used, frequently, intermittently or occasionally. Some of our members are unable to identify these substances to medical practitioners as work related or even for a diagnosis.

Currently law requires HESIS to provide information of practical use to employers, employees, and others on toxic workplace hazards. But it does not give HESIS the ability to find out where any toxics are being used in California, thus undermining HESIS ability to provide early warnings. 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 alternative, when HESIS has information regarding negative health impacts of certain toxic chemicals.

(Con't)

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 urge you and all members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee to support SB 193 when it is heard on June 25, 2013.

We thank you for your interest, consideration, and we look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

WAREHOUSE, PROCESSING & DISTRIBUTION  
WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL 26, I.L.W.U.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luisa Gratz" with a small flourish at the end.

Luisa Gratz, President

c.c. via e-mail [Kathy.Smith@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Kathy.Smith@sen.ca.gov)

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