



1107 9th Street, Suite 625 • Sacramento, CA 95814 • (916) 498-9608 • mail@consumercal.org

April 14, 2015

The Honorable Susan Bonilla
Chair, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
1020 N Street, Room 383
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 708 (Jones-Sawyer) – Consumer products: content information – Support
As introduced - February 25, 2015
Assembly Business and Professions Committee - April 21, 2015

Dear Assemblymember Bonilla:

The Consumer Federation of California (CFC) writes in support of AB 708, authored by Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer. This bill will require manufactures of cleaning products to disclose the ingredients in their products to consumers.

Disclosure for cleaning product ingredients is an important issue for consumers, as more and more Americans seek to make conscientious choices regarding those products' impact on their families' health, and on the environment. Consumers have the right to know what's in the products they buy.

Labels disclosing ingredients are mandatory for many classes of consumer goods, such as food, cosmetics, and drugs. Yet disclosures are not required for cleaning products to which consumers are exposed every day, in spite of the fact that some chemicals found in some ordinary household products are known or suspected to have serious health effects.

Mounting evidence links the incidence and severity of cancer, birth defects, asthma, endometriosis, developmental disabilities, and infertility rates to chemical exposure. Yet, current law does not require manufacturers to disclose the ingredients in cleaning products. Some companies are starting to list at least a few of the product ingredients on the label, however many ingredients remain hidden under catch-all descriptions, such as "fragrance."

Consumers who wish to make informed purchases are often in the dark when it comes to how to choose safe cleaning products. AB 708 will give consumers the information they need to make educated decisions about their purchases.

If you have any questions, please contact our Legislative Advocate Aaron Lewis at (916) 498-9616.

We urge your "Aye" vote on AB 708.

Sincerely,

Richard Holober
Executive Director

cc: Members and Staff, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer