



“Protect the ocean and
you protect yourself.”
— JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU

Ocean Futures Society endorses Kid-Safe Chemicals Act

FACT: MARINE LIFE IS AT AN INCREASED RISK BECAUSE OF HUMAN NEGLIGENCE REGARDING SAFETY STANDARDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF CHEMICALS.

Further examination of the issues presented in the Ocean Futures Society's PBS film, *“Call of the Killer Whale,”* has made it increasingly evident that the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is inadequate in eliminating toxic substances from marine life. The TSCA created a baseline for the EPA to regulate the use of toxic substances, but since its inception 33 years ago, major flaws have surfaced and new legislation is increasingly necessary to protect human life and marine life from future exposure.

What Needs Changing:

Marine Life is at Risk

Currently, nine of the ten top species affected by Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) in the world, are marine mammals. PCBs, the most common POP, currently play the largest role in impacting marine species. The new emerging PBDEs are soon to pass the contaminant load of the outlawed PCBs

The Burden falls on Government

The TSCA requires that the EPA take the initiative to test any chemicals they deem potentially harmful in order to remove them from production. EPA must prove a chemical is dangerous to restrict its use, a process that rarely happens. Sadly, only 200 of the 62,000 chemicals grandfathered in the TSCA were tested.

No Prerequisite for Chemical Testing

The TSCA requires zero testing before manufacturers incorporate chemicals in products. This creates a reactive government, designed only to clean up the mess caused by harmful chemicals instead of preventing damage from happening to the environment.

Toxic Chemicals continue to enter Production

Each year, manufacturers introduce approximately 700 new chemicals into the market place and for many, in to the environment. As long as the TSCA is the regulatory standard for chemical use, new and untested chemicals will continue to enter the environment and further affect marine ecosystems and human health.

Toxins Will Further Harm Marine Life

The absence of effective chemical regulation allows toxic chemicals to remain in the environment for years, even decades for some persistent chemicals. Until something changes with TSCA, toxic substances will further harm marine life...all life.



The Kid-Safe Chemicals Act Will: **Protect the Future of Marine Life**

Although POPs will linger in marine environments for some time, the Kid-Safe Chemicals Act is a concrete step towards eliminating the increased introduction of POPs into the marine environment and their increasing bioaccumulation in marine life.

Shift the Burden to the Manufacturers

Kid-Safe Chemicals Act will correct the main deficiency of the TSCA by reallocating responsibility to the producer/manufacture to ensure the safety of a chemical. Placing the burden on the EPA created a “use first, check later” mentality, which Kid-Safe Chemicals Act deems intolerable.

Subjecting All Chemicals to Testing

Kid-Safe will require that all chemicals are safe prior to any incorporation in production. Under Kid-Safe, any and all chemicals found in human blood are presumed unsafe and subject to priority review.

Eliminate Toxic Chemicals from Production

The new parameters expressed in Kid-Safe will prevent the release of any harmful chemicals into the environment that could affect marine life. Every new chemical entering production must be proved non-toxic by the EPA under Kid-Safe.

A New Generation

The hope of Kid Safe reform is to create proactive regulation that will prevent further harm to humans and all creatures that share this blue planet. “Time is of the essence...and it's not an issue of pointing fingers or accusing anybody. Now that we know the consequences, we need to immediately change. Please join me and OFS in lending your voice in support of the KID- SAFE CHEMICALS ACT” Jean-Michel Cousteau