

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3331

To prohibit, as a banned hazardous substance, certain household dishwashing detergent containing phosphorus.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit, as a banned hazardous substance, certain household dishwashing detergent containing phosphorus.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) phosphorus loading of surface waters can
6 stimulate the growth of weeds and algae, and that
7 such growth can have adverse environmental, health,
8 and aesthetic effects;

9 (2) household detergents contribute to phos-
10 phorus loading, and limits on detergents containing

1 phosphorus can significantly reduce the discharge of
2 phosphorus into the surface and ground waters;

3 (3) household detergents containing no or very
4 low phosphorus are readily available, and over 30
5 percent of the United States population lives in
6 areas with a ban on detergents containing phos-
7 phorus;

8 (4) phosphorus limits on household detergents
9 can significantly reduce treatment costs at those
10 sewage treatment facilities that remove phosphorus
11 from the waste stream;

12 (5) while significant reductions of phosphorus
13 from laundry detergent have been accomplished
14 without Federal regulation, similar progress in re-
15 ducing phosphorus contributions from dishwashing
16 detergents has not been achieved; and

17 (6) detergents containing no or very low phos-
18 phorus are not readily available for commercial and
19 industrial use, and this Act is not intended to affect
20 the sale or distribution of such items.

21 **SEC. 2. PHOSPHORUS IN DISHWASHING DETERGENT.**

22 (a) REGULATION AS A BANNED HAZARDOUS SUB-
23 STANCE.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enact-
24 ment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commis-
25 sion, pursuant to section 3 of the Federal Hazardous Sub-

1 stances Act (15 U.S.C. 1262), shall issue regulations de-
2 claring dishwashing detergent intended for individual
3 household use that contains phosphorus to be a banned
4 hazardous substance under such Act.

5 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this Act and for pur-
6 poses of the regulations required under subsection (a), the
7 term “dishwashing detergent intended for individual
8 household use” means any soap or detergent marketed for
9 the purpose of washing dishes and intended for use in indi-
10 vidual households.

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