

The House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment offers the following substitute to HR 381:

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Supporting the modernization of the federal Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976; and for
- 2 other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, American consumers deserve to have confidence that the products they buy,
- 4 when used for their intended purposes, are safe; and

- 5 WHEREAS, a federal chemical management program should place protecting the public
- 6 health, including children's health, as its highest priority and should include strict government
- 7 oversight; and

- 8 WHEREAS, the federal chemical management program should preserve America's role as
- 9 the world's leading innovator and employer in the manufacture, processing, distribution in
- 10 commerce, and use of chemicals; and

- 11 WHEREAS, the current chemical management law, the Toxic Substances Control Act
- 12 (TSCA), was signed into law in 1976 and is now nearly 35 years old; and

- 13 WHEREAS, since the enactment of the law, our ability to understand the impact chemicals
- 14 have on the human body and the environment has advanced significantly; and

- 15 WHEREAS, those advancements in science and technology need to be integrated into the
- 16 federal chemical management program; and

- 17 WHEREAS, momentum for modernization of the federal chemical regulatory system is
- 18 growing in Congress; and

- 19 WHEREAS, amendments to the TSCA should ensure that chemicals are safe for their
- 20 intended use; require companies that manufacture, import, process, distribute, or use
- 21 chemicals to provide the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with

22 relevant information to the extent necessary for the EPA to make safe use determinations;
23 assure that potential risks to children from exposure to chemicals are considered in the
24 assessment of safe use; empower the EPA to impose a range of risk management controls to
25 ensure that chemicals are safe for their intended use; encourage companies and the EPA to
26 work together to enhance public access to chemical health and safety information; enable the
27 EPA to have staff, resources, and regulatory tools needed to ensure the safety of chemicals;
28 and ensure that the TSCA remains a vehicle to promote and encourage technological
29 innovation and the maintenance of a globally competitive industry in the United States; and

30 WHEREAS, amendments should require the EPA to systematically prioritize chemicals for
31 the purpose of assessing their safe use, to act expeditiously and efficiently in assessing the
32 safe use of chemicals, and to rely on scientifically valid data and information; and

33 WHEREAS, a robust federal chemical management system will obviate the need for state
34 governments to adopt different, at times conflicting, state regulatory programs that have the
35 potential for negative impacts on the national economy.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body encourage the United States Congress to enact legislation that
38 modernizes the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to members of the Georgia
41 Congressional delegation.