

## Implementing International Agreements on Persistent Organic Pollutants POPs Proposed Amendments to the Toxic Substances Control Act



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*(Jaiden Konopelski)*

## IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS POPs PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT



BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 38 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. Between 1998 and 2001, the United States signed two international treaties and one executive agreement to reduce production and use, and regulate trade and disposal, of certain persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and other chemicals that (for the most part) are strictly regulated in U. S. commerce. POPs are chemicals like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and the pesticide DDT that do not break down easily in the environment, tend to accumulate as they move up the food chain, and may be harmful to people and wildlife. The President signed and has submitted the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent to the Senate for advice and consent. If the Senate consents by a two-thirds majority, and the Congress passes legislation that is needed to implement the two treaties (as well as the executive agreement, the POPs Protocol to the Aarhus Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution), then the treaties can be ratified and the agreements would take effect domestically. Current U. S. laws do not provide for the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to fully comply with the provisions of these international agreements. For example, EPA has no authority to ban or restrict production of a chemical intended for export, even if its sale and use in the United States are prohibited. If the United States is going to abide by the agreements, Congress would have to enact amendments to two federal laws: the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), governing industrial uses of chemicals, and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), which regulates pesticide sale and use. Legislation has been introduced in the 109th Congress that would allow implementation of the agreements. H...

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