May 2, 2017

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Funding for Implementation of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act

Dear Chairmen:

We are writing as members of the American Alliance for Innovation (AAI), an alliance of trade associations along the chemistry value chain, to urge you to appropriate sufficient funds in FY18 to enable the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to fully implement the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (LCSA; Public Law 114-182). The LCSA amends the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to modernize the way chemicals are regulated in the United States.

AAI members represent businesses both large and small spread across the economy. We represent many major sectors of our economy—all along the chemistry value chain—including aerospace, agriculture, apparel, automotive, building and construction materials, chemical and raw material production, consumer and industrial goods, distribution, electronics, energy, equipment manufacturers, food and grocery, footwear, healthcare products and medical technology, information technology, mining and metals, paper products, plastics, retail, storage, and travel goods.

The LCSA stipulates that the TSCA program be funded through a combination of Congressional appropriations, as well as new industry fees up to $25 million per year—a funding concept that industry supports. The statute requires TSCA to be funded, at a minimum, at 2014 levels, or $56 million annually, in order for these industry fees to apply. Appropriating a funding level that ensures contribution from industry fees is critical to a properly functioning TSCA. We are supportive of President Trump’s current FY18 budget proposal to provide an additional $14 million to EPA to help fund LCSA implementation, and we urge that you not cut the EPA budget proposal as it relates to LCSA implementation. It is imperative that the Agency be appropriated the funds it needs to properly and efficiently execute the requirements of the Lautenberg Act.

Efficient, effective implementation of the LCSA is critical to further ensuring the safe use of chemicals, while encouraging innovation and the development of new products, and maintaining America’s ability to compete in today’s global marketplace. Providing EPA with the resources it needs to implement LCSA and operate the TSCA program is a top priority for each of our organizations, since it will have a profound impact on the products we make and/or the services we provide, and the millions of workers we represent. Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of this important matter, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Adhesive and Sealant Council
Aerospace Industries Association
Agricultural Retailers Association
International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers
International Sleep Products Association
International Warehouse Logistics Association
International Wood Products Association
IPC – Association Connecting Electronics Industries
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association
Methanol Institute
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
National Association for Surface Finishing
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers
National Cotton Council
National Council of Textile Organizations
National Fisheries Institute
National Grocers Association
National Industrial Sand Association
National Lime Association
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Mining Association
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Pest Management Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
National Retail Federation
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc.
National Tooling and Machining Association
North American Die Casting Association
North American Meat Institute
Oregon Women in Timber
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute
Painting & Decorating Contractors of America
Personal Care Products Council
Personal Watercraft Industry Association
Pine Chemicals Association International
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association
Plastics Industry Association
Plastics Pipe Institute
Plumbing Manufacturers International
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Polyurethane Manufacturers Association
Portland Cement Association
Precision Machined Products Association
Precision Metalforming Association
PVC Pipe Association
Recreation Vehicle Industry Association
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Reusable Packaging Association
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)
Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association
Rubber Manufacturers Association
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
Specialty Graphic Imaging Association
Sports & Fitness Industry Association
Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance
SPRI, Inc. (representing the Single Ply Roofing Industry)
Structural Insulated Panel Association
Styrene Information and Research Center
The Chlorine Institute
The Silver Institute
The Toy Association
The Vinyl Institute
Thermoset Resin Formulators Association
Travel Goods Association
Treated Wood Council
TRSA – The Linen, Uniform and Facility Services Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Council for International Business
United Egg Producers
Utility Solid Waste Activities Group
Vinyl Siding Institute, Inc.
Wallcoverings Association
Waterways Council, Inc.
Window and Door Manufacturers Association