



Cosmetic Hazardous Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2025

Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL) & Rep. Matsui (D-CA)

SUMMARY

The Cosmetic Hazardous Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2025 requires disclosure on product labels and websites of secret, unlabeled, and often toxic fragrance and flavor ingredients in beauty and personal care products. Plus, website links where consumers can get more information about any hazardous ingredients in a cosmetic product that negatively impacts human health. The bill would apply to both retail consumer products and professional salon products.

PROBLEM

Thousands of synthetic chemicals are used to create the fragrances that make our beauty and personal care products smell good. Some of these chemicals have been linked to negative health impacts ranging from allergic reactions to reproductive harm to increased risk of breast cancer. Fragrance chemicals are found in more than 95% of personal care productsⁱ including shampoos, conditioners, hair styling products, antiperspirants and shaving products, as well as fine fragrances, body sprays and lotions and even make-up. In a national survey, over 34% of respondents in the U.S. reported health problems, such as migraine headaches and respiratory difficulties, in response to exposure to fragranced products.ⁱⁱ

According to a recent analysis of the International Fragrance Association's (IFRA) Transparency List – a compilation of chemicals used by fragrance houses from around the world - over 98% of fragrance chemicals currently in use either have significant gaps in available hazard data or are considered to be of high or potentially high concern by authoritative scientific bodies.

Fragrance chemicals also pose significant occupational risks. Professional salon workers are disproportionately exposed to fragrances in the workplace. Hairdressers and beauticians have a 47-fold higher riskⁱⁱⁱ of fragrance skin allergies than other occupations. The California Work-

Related Asthma Prevention Program has documented that fragranced products in the workplace are associated with work-related asthma.^{vi}

Chemicals intended to impart flavor can also have harmful health impacts. Thirty-eight flavors listed on the International Organization of the Flavorings Industry (IOFI) list are on the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's Candidate Chemicals List, linking them to harm to human health or the environment.^{vii} This includes 10 flavor ingredients listed as carcinogens or reproductive toxicants by California Proposition 65.^{viii}

CURRENT MARKET TRENDS & STATE LAWS

The voluntary disclosure of hazardous fragrance and flavor ingredients in personal care and beauty products is already happening across the country. Hundreds of clean cosmetic companies fully disclose fragrance ingredients and multinational giants like Procter & Gamble, Unilever, and Johnson & Johnson are voluntarily disclosing fragrance ingredients at or above 100 parts per million.

In addition to being an industry best practice, the disclosure of fragrance and flavor ingredients in beauty and personal care is the law in California.^{ix} Two states - California^x and New York^{xi} - require even stronger fragrance ingredient disclosure for cleaning products.

The legislatively mandated public disclosure of fragrance and flavor ingredients via the California Cosmetic Fragrance and Flavor Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2020^{xii} also means those chemicals are no longer eligible for trade secret protection, given through their public disclosure their identity is no longer a secret.^{xiii}

POLICY GAPS

No federal law currently requires the disclosure of fragrance or flavor ingredients to consumers. This loophole allows dozens – sometimes even hundreds – of chemicals to hide under the word “fragrance” on the labels of beauty and personal care products with no regulatory oversight. The same loophole exists for flavors, which appear in products like flavored lip gloss and chap-sticks marketed to children. Moreover, this loophole also applies to other hazardous ingredients in cosmetic products.

SOLUTION

The Cosmetic Hazardous Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2025 requires:

1. On a cosmetic company’s website:

- A full list of ingredients, including fragrance and flavor ingredients, in descending order of predominance for each cosmetic product.
- The functional purpose of each fragrance or flavor ingredient.
- A link to safety data sheets (SDS) for products intended for professional use.
- For any ingredient that is scientifically linked to a negative impact on human health, brand owners must provide a website link to any of the 21 lists of toxic chemicals from respected state, federal, and international governmental or scientific bodies referenced by the bill.

2. On the product **packaging or labeling**:

- A full list of ingredients, including fragrance and flavor ingredients, in descending order of predominance
- A statement directing consumers to the brand owner's website for health impact information related to any hazardous ingredients in the product.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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- i [Prevalence of Cosmetic Allergens; Journal of Clinical and Aesthetic Dermatology](#)
- ii [Fragranced consumer products: exposures and effects from emissions; Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health International Journal](#)
- iii [Montgomery RL, Agius R, Wilkinson SM and Carder M. \(2018\) UK trends of allergic occupational skin disease attributed to fragrances](#)
- iv [CDPH Fragrances and Work-Related Asthma](#)
- v Women’s Voices for the Earth – comparison of SB312 reportable ingredients to IOFI flavor palette (2019)
- vi Women’s Voices for the Earth – comparison of SB312 reportable ingredients to IOFI flavor palette (2019)
- vii [Bill Text - SB-312 Cosmetic Fragrance and Flavor Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2020. \(ca.gov\)](#)
- viii [Bill Text - SB-258 Cleaning Product Right to Know Act of 2017. \(ca.gov\)](#)
- ix [Household Cleansing Product Information Disclosure Program - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation](#)
- xii [Description of California SB312 \(ca.gov\)](#)
- xiii [Breast Cancer Prevention Partners’ Right to Know: Just How Hazardous are Fragrances \(2025\)](#)