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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the use, production, sale, importation, or exportation of any pesticide containing atrazine.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NADLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use, production, sale, importation, or exportation of any pesticide containing atrazine.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ban Atrazine Toxi-
5 cants Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Atrazine is the second-most used herbicide
2 in the United States, with approximately 80,000,000
3 pounds used annually.

4 (2) Atrazine has been banned in the European
5 Union since 2003, and in Italy and Germany since
6 1991 due to its long-term persistence in the environ-
7 ment, toxicity to wildlife, and link to adverse effects
8 on human health.

9 (3) Atrazine is highly persistent in the environ-
10 ment and can remain in water for decades. Even
11 after the European Union banned the chemical over
12 2 decades ago, atrazine can still be detected in
13 groundwater.

14 (4) Atrazine is one of the most commonly de-
15 tected pesticides in drinking water, groundwater,
16 and surface water across the nation. Approximately
17 75 percent of stream water and about 40 percent of
18 all groundwater samples from agricultural areas
19 tested in an extensive United States Geological Sur-
20 vey study contained atrazine.

21 (5) The United States Geological Sruvey has
22 found that atrazine is the most frequently detected
23 of all herbicides in urban streams.

1 (6) Atrazine is detected in rainwater, fog, ambi-
2 ent air, arctic ice, and seawater at great distances
3 from urban and agricultural areas.

4 (7) Studies have also concluded that approxi-
5 mately 217–642 tons of atrazine is annually depos-
6 ited the Gulf of Mexico from the Mississippi River
7 Basin.

8 (8) Atrazine’s impacts on human health are
9 well documented in the scientific literature. Expo-
10 sure to atrazine can cause elevated cancer risks,
11 heightened risks of birth defects, and significant re-
12 productive impacts. Birth defects are associated with
13 atrazine, including chroanal atresis, stenosis, and
14 gastrochisis.

15 (9) Farmworkers and rural populations who are
16 most often exposed may suffer reproductive harms
17 such as low sperm count and motility, while general
18 exposure in conjunction with other pesticides in-
19 creases risk of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma in men.

20 (10) Atrazine is highly toxic to wildlife and
21 causes adverse endocrine impacts in amphibians,
22 reptiles, mammals, and birds, including impaired re-
23 production, lowered reproductive output, disrupted
24 development, and immunosuppression. Exposure to
25 atrazine at levels as low as 0.1 parts per billion have

1 been shown to harm the development of eggs in male
2 frogs. Atrazine increases stress hormones in imma-
3 ture salmon leading to high mortality rates and low
4 reproductive success.

5 (11) The Environmental Protection Agency
6 found in 2022 that atrazine is likely to adversely af-
7 fect 1,013 threatened and endangered species, or 56
8 percent of all endangered plants and animals in the
9 nation, including the whooping crane, California red-
10 legged frog, and the San Joaquin kit fox.

11 (12) The United States Department of Agri-
12 culture concluded that banning atrazine would only
13 lead to a 1.19 percent decrease in corn yields.

14 (13) A 2007 study found that neither Germany
15 nor Italy, both of which are corn-producing nations,
16 reported drops in corn yields following their 1991
17 ban on atrazine.

18 **SEC. 3. CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION OF ATRAZINE.**

19 Section 6 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and
20 Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136d) is amended by adding
21 at the end the following:

22 “(1) CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION OF
23 ATRAZINE.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

1 “(A) CANCELLATION.—Effective on the
2 date of the enactment of this subsection—

3 “(i) atrazine shall be deemed to gen-
4 erally cause unreasonable adverse effects to
5 humans; and

6 “(ii) notwithstanding any other provi-
7 sion of law, including subsection (b), the
8 registration of all uses of atrazine shall be
9 immediately and permanently canceled by
10 operation of law and without further pro-
11 ceedings.

12 “(B) REVOCATION OF TOLERANCES AND
13 EXEMPTIONS.—Not later than 6 months after
14 the date of enactment of this subsection, the
15 Administrator shall, in accordance with section
16 408(b)(1)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and
17 Cosmetic Act, revoke any tolerance or exemp-
18 tion that allows the presence of atrazine, or any
19 pesticide chemical residue that results from
20 atrazine use, in or on food.

21 “(2) SALE OF EXISTING STOCKS PROHIB-
22 ITED.—In accordance with subsection (a)(1), effec-
23 tive on the date of enactment of this subsection, the
24 continued sale or use of existing stocks of atrazine
25 shall be prohibited.

1 “(3) NO FUTURE ATRAZINE REGISTRATIONS.—
2 Effective on the date of the enactment of this sub-
3 section, the Administrator may not register any pes-
4 ticide containing atrazine under section 4.

5 “(4) INELIGIBILITY FOR EMERGENCY USE.—
6 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pes-
7 ticide canceled under this section shall not be eligible
8 for use under section 18.

9 “(5) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
10 ‘atrazine’ refers to the pesticide chemical 2-chloro-4-
11 ethylamino-6-isopropylamino-1,3,5-triazine.”.