

Dear [Your Senator/Representative],

I am writing to urge you to reject attacks on one of the most important children's health measures passed by Congress in the past decade -- the *Food Quality Protection Act* (FQPA).

When the FQPA passed unanimously in 1996, it marked the first time that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was directed by law to protect children's health first when evaluating pesticides. Now, as EPA finally starts to implement this landmark legislation, bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate that would virtually gut the FQPA.

H.R. 1592 and S. 1464, the Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act of 1999, would slow EPA implementation of the FQPA by:

- Requiring new reports and regulations before any action can be taken to protect children's health, burying EPA in endless paperwork requirements that could delay action for years;
- Effectively canceling the mandate to protect children by prohibiting any EPA action if there are more data that the Agency could theoretically collect; and
- Replacing health-based considerations with a balancing act that always favors the pesticide industry.

This legislation would return us to the days when pesticide manufacturers were better protected than children's health. I urge you to reject this unwarranted attack on the FQPA. The health of millions of children is at stake.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,