資料來源:

<u>Legislative bill proposes ban on sunscreen chemical harmful to coral reefs</u> Sunscreens face state ban

On Tuesday, the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection passed House Bill 600, introduced by Representative Nicole Lowen (District 6, Kailua-Kona, Holualoa), which would prohibit the sale of sunscreens containing the chemical oxybenzone.

The committee also moved House Bill 819 forward that would allow continued sale of oxybenzone products, but impose new labeling requirements. HB 600 will next go to the House Floor and then to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Oxybenzone has been an FDA approved sunscreen ingredient since 1980.

State Senator Will Espero (D/Ewa Beach, Ewa) is one of a group of legislators proposing a ban of all sunscreen products that contain oxybenzone and octinoxate in Hawaii (except under medical prescription), but adds "we are not going to be out there checking people on the beach and looking at their sunscreen."

That's because if the ban becomes law, you won't be able to buy sunscreen with this chemical in local stores.

When asked if he thinks there will be any push-back from companies that use the chemical in their sunscreens, Espero said "I've already been approached by a lobbyist who is going to be advocating against our legislation."

He said while there won't be airport checks to make sure no one is importing the products to the islands, if the ban becomes law and goes into effect in July 2018, anyone caught selling or distributing sunscreens containing oxybenzone could face a misdemeanor.

The bill is already attracting attention from other regions with economies reliant on reefs, including Palau and the British Virgin Islands, Espero says. But manufacturers argue that more evidence is needed to warrant a ban. In November 2015, a group of European Parliament members proposed a motion to ban oxybenzone in cosmetic products throughout the European Union, but that legislation has stalled.

But sunscreen manufacturers such as L'Oréal disagree that a ban is needed. "Regulatory decisions have to be made on sound scientific evidence and multiple studies," says Marc Leonard, head of L'Oréal's Research & Innovation, Environmental Research department in Aulnay-sous-Bois, France. Despite this, says Leonard, L'Oréal are working on making sunscreen products without oxybenzone, in anticipation of a possible ban.

The Consumer Healthcare Products Association, a national trade association for manufacturers based in Washington DC, says that it will oppose a ban until there is more evidence.

星期二,能源和環境保護委員會通過了由代表人Nicole Lowen(第6區,Kailua-Kona,Holualoa)提出的法案第600號(House Bill 600),該議案禁止出售含有化學物質氧苯酮(oxybenzone)的防曬霜。

該委員會還提出了法案第819號,允許繼續銷售氧苯酮產品,但加了更嚴格的標籤要求。 HB 600法案接下來將進入消費者保護委員會審理。

自1980年以來,氧苯酮便是美國食品藥品監督管理局(FDA)批准的防曬成分。

參議院議員Will Espero是推動此立法的代表之一,提出除了醫療處方外,禁止在夏威夷出現含有氧苯酮和甲氧基肉桂酸辛酯(octinoxate)的防曬產品。而他補充道:「我們不會派出檢查人員到海灘上,抽查他們的

防曬乳是否合法。」

這是因為一旦這條禁止令成為法律,人們在當地商店將再也無法購買到含此類化學品防曬霜。

當Espero被問及,販賣含有這幾類化學物防曬乳的公司是否因禁止法案而有任何回應時,他說:「已有位遊說人士向我表明了,他將阻止此法案成立。」

Espero說,雖不會在機場檢查此產品可能偷渡進口,然而如果禁令成為法律,並於2018年7月生效後,任何人販售含有氧苯酮的防曬乳,可能會面臨輕罪。

這項法案已經引起了其他依賴珊瑚礁生態為重要經濟產值的地區之重視,包括帛琉和英屬維京群島。但製造商認為,需要更多的證據來確認此禁令的正當性。 2015年11月,一群歐洲議會議員提出了一項動議,要求在歐盟範圍內禁止使用化妝品中常見的氧苯酮,然而隨後立法陷入僵局而停滯。

但是,防曬乳製造商如歐萊雅等不同意此禁令。歐萊雅在法國Aulnay-sous-Bois環境研究與創新部門主管 Marc Leonard表示:「必須根據可靠的科學證據和多項研究進行監管與決策。」儘管如此,Leonard說,歐萊雅正在努力製作不含氧苯酮的防曬產品,預計可能的禁令。

位於華盛頓特區的消費者保健產品協會(Consumer Healthcare Products Association),已表示在沒有更多的科學證據前,將會反對此禁令。