

Dear Members of the Health Committee:

I'm Cosan Unuvar and here today as a board member of the Cookware Sustainability Alliance – a group of manufacturers that came together in 2024 to advocate for the cookware industry, because nonstick cookware does not belong in a PFAS product ban bill. We oppose this bill and would ask respectfully for an unfavorable report.

Since we formed, state legislatures across the US have listened to the science, and have agreed that there are significant differences between harmful PFAS, like PFOA, and safe materials like fluoropolymers such as PTFE, which is what coats a non-stick pan. In the last 12 months:

- **New York, Oregon, and Nevada** have refused to move PFAS product bans
- **Vermont** amended and paused their product ban, to exclude fluoropolymers
- **Illinois and New Mexico** passed PFAS product bans which specifically exclude fluoropolymers
- And **California's** Governor vetoed a PFAS product ban bill last fall, specifically noting his concerns about banning non-stick cookware

States are recognizing that fluoropolymers like PTFE are:

1. Non-toxic
2. Not water soluble, so they do not and cannot enter drinking water systems
3. Non bio-accumulative, non bio-available
4. Too large to penetrate a human cell membrane.

Even reputable organizations such as, The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) do not identify PTFE as a cancer risk. Similarly, the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) suggests no health impairments.

PTFE is used on nonstick cookware because it is safe, durable, and there is no other material that comes close to being comparable in nonstick performance and longevity. We know from rigorous product testing and consumer feedback that the only nonstick alternative currently available, known as ceramic nonstick, does not last as long, it needs to be replaced between 3 and 7x more often than conventional nonstick. This costs households significantly more money over time and leads to a steep increase in landfill waste. As sustainable manufacturers, this does not sit right with us.

We respectfully ask you to follow the science and focus this ban only on those PFAS chemicals known to cause harm.

Thank you.