

**STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD
REVLON
HEARING OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
ON
“BUILDING CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
BY EMPOWERING FDA TO IMPROVE COSMETIC SAFETY”
DECEMBER 4, 2019**

Revlon is pleased to submit this statement for the record and appreciates the efforts of Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Chairwoman Eshoo, and Ranking Member Burgess in convening this important hearing on cosmetics reform.

We want to begin by thanking you, Chairman Pallone, for your leadership on cosmetics reform legislation. While there are certainly others on this panel and in the Congress interested in this issue, Revlon knows that you and your dedicated staff are key to achieving these important reforms discussed as part of the hearing today. We are also so proud to call your district home to Revlon’s primary Research and Development facility, where our 150 employees come to work every day to ensure our products meet the highest safety and efficacy standards.

Revlon was founded over 87 years ago by Charles Revson, who revolutionized the cosmetics industry by introducing nail enamels matched to lipsticks in fashion colors. Today, the company continues Revson’s legacy by producing and marketing innovative products that address consumers’ wants and needs for beauty and personal care products in mass and luxury retail channels across all 50 states in the U.S. and in 150 countries around the world.

Throughout our company’s history, safety has been and remains a top of priority for Revlon. In Edison our research and development group performs extensive safety and quality testing on our products, including toxicology, microbiology, efficacy, and package testing, along with quality control testing at each of our manufacturing facilities. All of the ingredients used by Revlon in the formulation of our cosmetic products have been reviewed for safety using rigorous assessments and research protocols to ensure human health and safety at the intended levels of use.

Throughout the last decade consumer products companies have seen an evolving consumer. More than just buying differently, today’s consumers want to know what is **in** the products they buy, and they also want more assurances that the products they use every day are safe for them and the environment. This is also true for the beauty and personal care industry.

While companies like Revlon have been and will continue to be committed to producing safe products, federal regulation of the industry has not kept pace. The federal Food, Drug, and

Cosmetics Act, which governs FDA oversight of cosmetics and personal care products, has not been updated in more than 80 years.

Although current law requires that companies substantiate the safety of their products before they enter the market, there is a need for a reasonable and meaningful update to federal oversight of personal care products to bring this law into the 21st century and meet the changing demands of consumers and our environment.

In the absence of any update and the perceived lack of federal regulation, we have seen states and now even retailers adopt an array of different and often competing set of rules. This is problematic for global companies like Revlon who need consistency across all fifty states in order to operate and grow. Without such consistency, consumers will correctly question who is making the final decision on what ingredients should and should not be in the products they use, and why.

The time has come to turn voluntary reporting requirements for product ingredients, supply chain, and serious adverse events into mandatory ones. Good manufacturing practice regulation is necessary to ensure products are manufactured in a safe, effective, and consistent way. When there is an issue of public health concern, the FDA should be able to take a product off the market. And finally, there should be a science-based, transparent process by which FDA conducts ingredient reviews that are of interest to consumers so that one uniform decision on ingredient safety can be applied across the country.

These are the type of commonsense updates to the law that Revlon has advocated for in Congress for the last ten years. Together with many others in our industry and alongside other important stakeholders like the Environmental Working Group, we have made our case for why these changes to the law are imperative.

The legislation introduced by you Mr. Chairman under consideration today advances this cause and achieves many of these goals. We are supportive of the bill's strong and comprehensive approach to cosmetics reform, noting that it is inclusive of all of the fundamental tenets for reform.

At the same time, additional work is necessary to refine some components of this bill. In particular, it is important to ensure that a cosmetic ingredient review program is workable and meaningful. Specifically, it should be one that FDA can reasonably put into place where it can make definitive, science-based, timely decisions on ingredients where there are questions in the public realm. It only adds more consumer confusion if the FDA is not able to act when an ingredient is under review, and Revlon is committed to being a constructive partner in providing input as this bill moves through the legislative process.

Over the years, as we have engaged with Congress on this issue we have been asked why industry would support "more" regulation? From our vantage point where the needs of the consumer are paramount, the answer is simple. This is not *more* regulation – industry is seeing

more regulation every day on an ad hoc, fragmented, non-transparent basis and not always based on sound science. This is *smart, effective* regulation.

Congress has an opportunity to get this right and give FDA the central role in providing the necessary oversight that answers the questions consumers are asking, instead of maintaining the status quo which creates uncertainty and often times misperceptions of our industry.

We look forward to working with you, Mr. Chairman, your colleagues and your dedicated staff in advancing cosmetics reform through Congress.

Thank you.