23 October 2023

The Honorable Larry Bucshon  
Subcommittee on Innovation, Data and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  

Subject: H.R. 5978, Cleaning Product Communications Act- Oppose  

Dear Congressman Bucshon:

Seventh Generation is the nation’s leading brand of household and personal care products designed to help protect human health and the environment. Established in 1988, our Burlington, Vermont based company employs over 160 people, distributing products to natural food retailers, supermarkets, mass merchants, and online retailers across the United States.

Among the products manufactured and sold by Seventh Generation are laundry detergents, dish detergents, and other cleaning products that would be impacted by passage of H.R. 5978, the Cleaning Product Communications Act.

We believe consumers have the right to know what’s in the products they bring into their homes, and we are committed to upholding the standard set by the California Cleaning Product Right to Know Act of 2017 (SB-258). While we understand your intent on amending the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act to expand and standardize ingredient disclosure in cleaning products, we cannot support H.R. 5978, as the bill does not align to the principles and standards set forth in California’s SB258.

Consumers are increasingly concerned about the chemicals in the products they buy. They want to know what chemicals are present so they can make an informed decision as to which products to buy. H.R. 5978 does not require manufacturers to provide that information.

We seek alignment and collaboration with industry leaders and consumer advocacy organizations to develop a Federal law that meets the needs of consumers while protecting the confidential information businesses and fostering innovation. By partnering with all stakeholders we can ensure we have consistent standardized product ingredient labeling with enhanced transparency that meets the needs of consumers, businesses, and advocacy organizations.

Sincerely,

Martin H. Wolf  
Director, Sustainability & Authenticity