

Dear Senator:

It has come to our attention that S. 3525, the Sportsmen's Act of 2012 - scheduled for a U.S. Senate floor vote immediately after Thanksgiving 2012, contains language that appears to exempt certain munitions constituents, such as lead and propellants, from the Toxic Substances Control Act. [See Section 121 (a).] We are concerned because the releases of such substances, including lead, perchlorate, RDX, DNT, etc., have been widely released into the environment, posing serious risks to both human health and the natural environment.

For example, in June 2012 the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry concluded, "Lead shot and fragments found on the Tyndall Elementary School grounds [in Florida] presented an urgent public health hazard to children who may have ingested the lead shot." Furthermore, millions of Americans are exposed to perchlorate from military rockets and fireworks at levels likely to harm newborns and young children.

We urge that Congress not enact such legislation without first carefully evaluating its implications and offering people concerned about the release of such toxic substances the opportunity to comment.

Signed (in alphabetical order),

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