

**France:  
Scientific basis for regulatory safety assessment of Bisphenol A-based materials in food contact applications unchanged**

**A recent proposal by nine French Senators to restrict the use of BPA in France contradicts the independent scientific conclusions of both the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the French Food Safety Authority (AFSSA).**

At the end of July, nine senators of the Rassemblement Démocratique et Social Européen, a small group in the French Parliament, put forward a "*proposition de loi*" calling for the use of BPA in plastic food containers to be restricted.

This is despite the fact that AFSSA, as well as Roselyne Bachelot-Narquin, the French Minister of Health, have repeatedly re-confirmed that BPA poses no risk to consumers from food contact materials. Specifically, Roselyne Bachelot-Narquin stated clearly in the French Parliament in both March 2009 and June 2009 that BPA does not represent a health risk to the public.

This is consistent with the results of the European Union Risk Assessment on BPA (published in 2008), the opinion of EFSA (2008), as well as with the assessments of many other European competent authorities, including Germany, the UK, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland and Denmark.

Therefore, media reports speculating that France might be banning BPA are highly exaggerated and unnecessarily worrying for the public. It will not be before late autumn that it will become clear whether the proposal will be discussed further in the French Parliament.

Jasmin Bird, Communications Manager for the PC/BPA Group of PlasticsEurope stated: "*Based on the available scientific evidence and the existing assessments of the French authorities, there is no scientific basis for a revision of the existing regulatory position in France regarding the safety of BPA-based food contact materials.*"

The PC/BPA-group strongly supports the French government's current position to base their regulatory approach to BPA on the available sound science and the assessments of their competent authorities.

For more information on BPA, please visit the industry information website on BPA at [www.bisphenol-a-europe.org](http://www.bisphenol-a-europe.org).

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