

Good Morning America Missed These 3 Things On Modernizing The Oversight of Cosmetics

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Safety is the top priority of every member of the Independent Cosmetic Manufacturers and Distributors (ICMAD) and we have long supported efforts to modernize federal oversight of cosmetics. That's why we welcomed Good Morning America's [story](#) this week to shed light on cosmetics and consumer safety. We offered to work with the correspondent and one of our members was even interviewed. Unfortunately, our side of the story wasn't included and GMA missed three important points:

1. **Americans need a national cosmetics safety standard.** Any effort to modernize how the Food and Drug Administration oversees personal care products must include a uniform national safety standard to ensure transparency around all health and safety decisions related to cosmetics. And this oversight needs to be in the hands of science and medical experts. The Feinstein-Collins bill referenced by GMA won't create that standard but Representative Sessions' *Safe Cosmetics Modernization Act* will, which is why ICMAD enthusiastically supports its passage in the next Congress.
2. **The safety of our cosmetics and personal care products is our number one priority: without safe products manufacturers and retailers would have no business.** Our members impose stringent health and safety standards and follow all state and federal laws. For over 40 years we have worked with FDA leaders to train our members on regulations that govern the cosmetics and personal care industry. However these small businesses are being forced to comply with an uneven patchwork of state safety regulations that are often guided by politics rather than real science.
3. **We must not stifle the innovation and entrepreneurial spirit that drive our industry. Doing so would cost jobs and increase the cost of cosmetics and personal care products to consumers.** ICMAD is proud to represent over 700 small businesses, a \$56 billion contributor to the U.S. economy and a strong export industry. The last thing American entrepreneurs and job creators need are unnecessary regulatory burdens or a patchwork of contradictory state regulations, but that's what our members are facing. The Feinstein-Collins bill would further burden small businesses by saddling them with heavy fees and would do nothing to streamline these contradictory state regulations. That means many small companies will be forced to close or sell out to larger companies, stifling innovation and decreasing competition. Not only will this cost jobs, but it will cost consumers, leaving them with fewer product options and higher prices for cosmetic and personal care products.

There is a clear way to modernize how the FDA oversees cosmetics without overburdening small businesses. That's the approach that Rep. Sessions' *Safe Cosmetics Modernization Act* proposes, and the approach that we at ICMAD support. We will continue to focus on protecting the ability of thousands of small businesses to create new products that help millions of Americans look and feel their best.