



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, & TECHNOLOGY

Floor Statement

Statement by Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)

on H.R. 2051, the *Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2019*

December 9, 2019

I rise in support of H.R. 2051, the – *Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2019*.

I want to thank Representatives Lipinski and Moolenaar for introducing this good bipartisan bill.

Chemistry touches every aspect of modern society. As the chemical industry continues to innovate to make our lives easier, we must do more to minimize the risks to the environment and to public health. Sustainable chemistry practices and principles, once widely adopted, will provide the private sector with tools to meet societal needs while mitigating negative impacts on the health and safety of future generations.

Unfortunately, progress in adopting this approach has been slow.

As we learned during the Science Committee hearing on this topic earlier this year, key challenges include a lack of research; a lack of Federal coordination; a lack of consensus regarding how sustainability should be measured and assessed; and a need for improved sustainable chemistry education.

This legislation establishes the framework for Federal leadership to advance sustainable chemistry. Specifically, the bill provides for improved coordination of Federal activities, including research and development of more sustainable chemicals, processes, and systems.

The bill also supports improved education in sustainable chemistry and expands opportunities for the Federal government to partner with industry to bring innovations to market.

When the Federal science agencies support our nation's scientists and engineers to come up with better solutions to real world problems, our brightest minds will always rise to the challenge.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.