



# PROP 65

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



**Prop 65** is an initiative started in 1986 in California that requires the state to provide a list of chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm, and businesses to notify California consumers if these chemicals are in the products they manufacture or distribute. Businesses could receive a significant fine or face a more serious legal outcome if there is no warning where specific chemicals are sent in their products.

The updated list currently populated with about 800 chemicals and more information about Prop 65 can be found at <https://p65warnings.ca.gov/>. Businesses are encouraged to become familiar with the chemicals found in their products, reference the list and make an educated decision on whether to place the warning on their products or place of business.

Other states are looking at Prop 65 and creating their own laws and guidelines based on it. It's not going away, but being applied on a state-by-state basis. Illinois, Washington, Connecticut, and Colorado are all trying to adopt part or all of California's laws.

Businesses should comply with Prop 65 and educate their customers.

It is important that all businesses familiarize themselves with the stipulations of Proposition 65. A warning label is only the first recommended defensive strategy and may not be enough to protect your organization from a violation notice and/or fine. It's strongly recommended that your firm consult with a legal professional for guidance.