

## **Better Evaluation of Science and Technology (BEST) Act**

The BEST Act is based on the Scientific Standards provision in the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). This bill takes the same scientific standards found in TSCA and applies them government-wide by amending the Administrative Procedure Act.

When an agency makes a decision based on science when issuing a rule, the agency must use the best available science and shall consider as applicable –

- The extent to which the scientific information is reasonable and consistent with the intended use;
- The extent to which the scientific information is relevant;
- The clarity and completeness of the information;
- Any variability and uncertainty in the information; and
- The extent of independent verification or peer-review of the information.

Using the above factors, agencies must base decisions on the weight of the scientific evidence.

Finally, agencies must make publically available all notices, determinations, findings, rules, consent agreements, and orders of the head of the agency in connection to the rule; a non-technical summary of each risk evaluation conducted in connection to a rule; and a list of studies considered by the agency along with the results of those studies.