The Muskegon Chronicle
MUSKEGON, MICH.
D. 49,539 SUN. 50,173

FEB 1 2 1976

Move to cut PCB threat

The Michigan House of Representatives has voted overwhelmingly (102-2) to adopt a bill that will sharply reduce use of the toxic chemical polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) in this state.

Senate action on the measure should be equally quick and decisive, and Gov. Milliken had indicated he will sign the bill into law — assuring protection of Michigan fish and wildlife against a very dangerous contaminant.

It is gratifying that the Legislature did not wait for federal level action, and it is to be hoped the ban — which is almost total — will encourage Congress to enact legislation outlawing PCB on a national scale.

The House bill limits the concentration of PCB that can be contained in Michigan products to 100 parts per million and is aimed at eventually stopping foreign manufacturers' sales of PCBs for uses that could contribute to water pollution.

It should be noted that the chemical industry has recognized the hazard, and has itself imposed cutbacks on its manufacture, sale and use.

Environmentalists and wildlife officials report use of PCBs has become a serious pollution problem on an international scale as well, and that there is reason for concern that it is dangerous to humans.

MONS 033031