The San Diego Union
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
D. 178,147 SUN. 292,966

FEB 19 1976

Chemical Curb OKd In Cancer Fight

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Commerce Committee unanimously approved a bill yesterday aimed at fighting the growth of environmentally caused cancer.

The bill would allow the Environmental Protection Agency to impose restrictions on such chemicals as Kepone and vinyl chloride and would require that EPA be notified 90 days in advance before they are marketed.

Sen. Warren Magnuson, D-Wash., chairman of the Commerce Committee, said the bill "closes the last major loophole existing in consumer and environmental law."

"None of the other major health statutes, except pesticide and drug laws, provide for premarket review by appropriation officials," Magnuson said. "This legislation would control hazards before they become evident and should prove to be a major victory in the war against increasing cancer rates."

Magnuson, in explaining how the bill would work, cited a 1974 accident involving an electronic capacitor that released polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) into the Duwamish Waterway in Seattle.

"This bill would have forced the manufacturer to crate the capacitor properly to avoid the rupture of the capacitor in the first place," Magnuson said.

MONS 033084