

Children's Product Safety Enhancement and Clarification Act

Protect our Children's Safety from Hazardous Products by Targeting Those Posing True Risk Through Clarifications to the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act

The Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act (Public Law 110-134), passed in to law on August 14, 2008, was aimed at the protection and wellbeing of children by ensuring that goods purchased for children's use are safe and free of hazardous contaminants. However, it appears the legislation that passed the House with broad bipartisan support also created many unintended consequences, not part of its original intent.

While Congress must take an aggressive stance to require the highest product safety laws, particularly in relation to the safety and wellbeing of children, it is evident that the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) needs clarification and refinement.

It is important that the mandates of the CPSIA be carried out in a manner targeting those goods and products which may pose risks to children, and not focus on items that could not possibly reach the lead limits defined under the Act, such as clothing, fabric or cloth diapers.

In addition, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) should be urged to work cooperatively with family-owned and other small businesses, including the makers of goods within the home, who comply in good faith with these regulations.

Finally, consignment stores, thrift stores, and those who provide used goods to those in need, should also be given special consideration to guard against unintended consequences and avoid confusion in the marketplace.

For this reason, I am introducing the *Children's Product Safety Enhancement and Clarification Act*. The bill would clarify the original intent of the CPSIA by requiring:

- Clothing and other cloth items made solely from fabric materials are not subject to liability under the lead limit standards under the CPSIA.
- Direct the CPSC to work cooperatively with family-owned and other small business to make sure they are not unduly impacted, while ensuring safety.
- Special consideration be given to thrift and consignment stores who sell "used" goods, while operating in good-faith, as well as those donating used goods to charity.

Help protect our children's safety by making sure only safe products are sold to our children, and not unduly impact those that produce and supply safe and compliant clothing and other products for America's youth.

Cosponsor the *Children's Product Safety Enhancement and Clarification Act*