



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER PETER A. FELDMAN
ON THE CPSC 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN
DECEMBER 16, 2022**

Today, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) voted to finalize the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan. Strategic planning is important to any organization, and when done right, is a critical operational and planning tool. Unfortunately, I could not support finalizing the Strategic Plan because its development was fundamentally flawed.

I have [shared](#) my concerns about the lack of a robust and complete consultation process. Rather than solicit views from diverse stakeholders in formulating this plan, a small group of senior agency career staff developed it without thorough consultation. Instead of engaging in the hard work of drafting a new plan from the ground up and tailoring it to current agency needs, staff recycled most of its work from the previous plan. While the draft plan was ultimately submitted for public comment, I believe we have missed an important opportunity to strengthen our strategic objectives based on a holistic and complete review.

Government strategic planning is mandatory under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRAMA). Specifically, GPRAMA requires agencies like CPSC to consult with Congress when developing these plans, “including majority and minority views from the appropriate authorizing, appropriations, and oversight committees.” We did not do this. In addition to developing the Strategic Plan with only certain senior staff, the Commission failed to consult all of the Congressional offices GPRAMA requires. As a result, I believe we missed an opportunity to incorporate important Congressional feedback into our planning. The lack of consultation and failure to follow the statute damages our goodwill and puts at risk our pending requests to fund agency operations at \$196 million.

While I am unable to support this Strategic Plan, I hope that the Commission can learn from this process and, in future plans, engage all staff, Congress, and other stakeholders before an initial draft plan is complete. With all interested parties at the table, I am confident the Commission and the American public would benefit from a stronger plan to strengthen the agency and better protect consumers.