

**STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE NANCY A. NORD
ACTING CHAIRMAN
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION**

**BALLOT VOTE
(PETITION FOR BAN ON LEAD TOY JEWELRY)**

December 11, 2006

I am voting to grant the petition and to instruct the staff to prepare a draft Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) in accordance with the staff's recommendation. Young children often mouth and sometimes swallow toy jewelry, some of which may contain dangerously high levels of lead. That lead, which is toxic, can leach from the jewelry and accumulate in a child's body, resulting in behavioral and growth problems, and learning disabilities which can last a lifetime. We need to determine what appropriate measures can be taken to address this important issue. The Commission has a long history of protecting children from lead hazards and the vote today to grant the petition and direct the staff to prepare an ANPR is consistent with that history. I look forward to working with all of our stakeholders to find a satisfactory solution to this health threat to our children.