



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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BETHESDA, MD 20814

COMMISSIONER JOSEPH P. MOHOROVIC

March 18, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305 Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-128 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
Vice Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-146A Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ander Crenshaw
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
B-300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
133 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable José E. Serrano
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Christopher Coons
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Rogers, Cochran, Crenshaw, and Boozman, Vice Chairwoman Mikulski, and Ranking Members Lowey, Serrano, and Coons:

Thank you for the opportunity for the CPSC to report the status of the third-party testing burden relief required by Public Law 112-28, enacted in 2011. I write separately from my colleague, Chairman Kaye, because I believe this vital work is languishing, at the expense of consumers. This report takes only timid steps toward the few opportunities it explores, and there are myriad areas it does not address, including one delineated in the letter Chairman Kaye and I sent to Chairman Thune.

I spent the better part of a decade working in the consumer product testing industry. I have first-hand familiarity with both the technical challenges and the legal restrictions we face in finding areas where we can

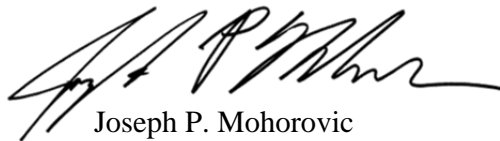
lighten business' regulatory burden in ways that do not compromise consumers' health or safety. And while I understand those are not insignificant hurdles, I believe they can be readily overcome. We only have to decide to do so.

We have the technical skill, financial resources, and legal flexibility to enact meaningful changes immediately through guidance policy. We have the expertise to supplement those with more fundamental changes over time through rulemaking. And we have the support of responsive committees of jurisdiction to revise our statutes where necessary. What we lack is the conviction, instead preferring to spend our time and the taxpayers' money half-heartedly on half-measures.

There is no question the report reflects thoughtful, deliberative work on the part of our staff. However, given how many stones we are not turning over – and how cautiously we have peaked under the few we are – it also reflects, I fear, a lack of will on the part of the Commission to take this responsibility as seriously as any other before us.

I hope that time will prove my fears unfounded, that the prospects tentatively sketched in this report will bear fruit and we will look for further opportunities. I know that our staff can provide us good answers, if only the Commission asks the questions, but I am uncertain that we will.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Mohorovic
Commissioner

Cc: The Honorable John Thune, Chairman
The Honorable Bill Nelson, Ranking Member
The Honorable Jerry Moran, Chairman
The Honorable Richard Blumenthal, Ranking Member
The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Ranking Member
The Honorable Michael Burgess, M.D., Chairman
The Honorable Jan Schakowsky, Ranking Member
The Honorable Elliot Kaye, Chairman
The Honorable Robert Adler, Commissioner
The Honorable Marietta Robinson, Commissioner
The Honorable Ann Marie Buerkle, Commissioner