



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Record of Commission Action
Commissioners Voting by Ballot *

Commissioners Voting: Chairman Ann Brown
Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall
Commissioner Thomas H. Moore

ITEM:

Restructuring of the Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences

DECISION:

Based on the recommendation of the Chairman and after consultation in accordance with section 4(f)(2) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, Section 4 of the Commission's General Policies (March 18, 1987), and the Commission's Policy on Notification, the Commission hereby unanimously approves the recommended division of the Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences into two directorates, one for Epidemiology and the other for Health Sciences.

For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sadye E. Dunn".

Sadye E. Dunn
Secretary

* Ballot due January 23, 1999



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CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20207

Office of the Chairman

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JAN 8 1999

TO : Mary Sheila Gall, Vice-Chairman
Thomas Moore, Commissioner

FROM : Ann Brown
Chairman *Ann Brown*

SUBJECT: Restructuring of Epidemiology and Health Sciences

Attached is a staff memorandum recommending the restructuring of the Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences. I have reviewed the staff rationale for restructuring and concur both with their recommendation and rationale. The proposed change will enhance the management of the two different, but important, technical functions of the Agency. Given the importance of our injury data collection and analysis functions, I believe it is extremely important that we have a senior manager that can focus all of his or her attention on data functions. There will be no additional costs of this reorganization since it will not increase the Agency's number of SES personnel.

Because this restructuring will result in two directorates where there is now only one, Commission policy requires prior approval by a majority of the Commission. A ballot vote is included in this package.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 5, 1999

TO: Ann Brown, Chairman

FROM: Pamela Gilbert, Executive Director *PG*
Ronald Medford, AED, EXHR *RM*

SUBJECT: Restructuring of Epidemiology and Health Sciences

We have recently reviewed the organizational structure in the Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences to determine if a different structure could enhance the effectiveness of technical work carried out in those units. As a result of that review, we are recommending that the Directorate be divided into two directorates -- one for Epidemiology and the other for Health Sciences.

In 1995, when Dr. Robert Verhalen retired as the Associate Executive Director for Epidemiology, the Directorates for Epidemiology and Health Sciences were combined.

Over the course of the past several years, it has become apparent to us that separate senior managers are needed to more effectively manage these two very different, but important, areas of technical specialty. We believe that the data functions of this Agency are vital to the success of our mission. However, the technical backgrounds that are needed to effectively manage the fields of toxicology, pharmacology, and physiology are vastly different from those needed to effectively manage the collection and statistical analysis of injury data.

Furthermore, this year we are preparing to implement an all trauma system using the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System. It appears, that, in all likelihood, there will be funds to implement the all trauma system next fiscal year. Therefore, because of the increased responsibility that will be placed on the Directorate for Epidemiology soon, we believe that it is important to take action now to separate these technical directorates.

This recommended change will not have an adverse effect on any Commission employee. The two Epidemiology divisions (Hazard Analysis and Hazard and Injury Data Systems) will remain intact and will report to a senior executive who will be recruited to fill that position. Dr. Mary Ann Danello, who was originally hired as the Associate Executive Director for Health Sciences, will now be responsible for the area for which she was originally recruited.