



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

CPSC/OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY

1999 AUG 11 A 11: 39

Memorandum

Date: AUG 11 1999

TO : The Commission
Sadye E. Dunn, Secretary

THROUGH: *TM* Pamela Gilbert, Executive Director

FROM : Jeffrey Bromme, General Counsel *JB*
Stephen Lemberg, Assistant General Counsel *SL*
Patricia M. Pollitzer, Attorney *PP*

SUBJECT : Petition requesting safety standard for bleachers and grandstands

BALLOT VOTE due: AUG 18 1999

The Office of the General Counsel has determined that a letter dated July 23, 1999 from Representatives Bill Luther and Jim Ramstad requesting that the Commission issue a safety standard for bleachers and grandstands should be docketed as a petition under the Consumer Product Safety Act. The Congressmen refer to several recent incidents in which children have fallen through gaps in bleachers at basketball and hockey arenas.

In accordance with the Commission directive on procedures for petitions (0605), the Office of the General counsel has drafted a notice for publication in the Federal Register inviting comments on the petition for a period of 60 days. The draft notice is attached. EXHR recommends that the Commission issue the notice.

Please indicate your vote on the following options.

- I. Approve the draft Federal Register notice without change.

Signature

Date

NOTE: This document has not been reviewed or accepted by the Commission.

Initial *h/l* Date *8/11/99* CPSC Hotline: 1-800-638-CPSC(2772) ★ CPSC's Web Site: <http://www.cpsc.gov>

CPSC 6 (b)(1) Cleared
8/11/99
No Mfrs/PrvtLbrs or
Products Identified
Excepted by *PP*
Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.

II. Approve the draft Federal Register notice with the following changes (please specify):

Signature

Date

III. Do not approve the draft Federal Register notice.

Signature

Date

IV. Take other action (please specify):

Signature

Date

DRAFT 8/5/99

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

**Petition Requesting Development of Safety Standard
for Bleachers and Grandstands**

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission has received a petition from Representatives Bill Luther and Jim Ramstad requesting that the Commission develop a safety standard to prevent falls between gaps in bleachers and grandstands. The Commission solicits written comments concerning the petition.

DATES: Comments on the petition should be received in the Office of the Secretary by [insert date 60 days after publication in the **Federal Register**].

ADDRESSES: Comments, preferably in five copies, on the petition should be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207, telephone (301) 504-0800, or delivered to the Office of the Secretary, Room 501, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Comments may also be filed by telefacsimile to (301) 504-0127 or by email to cpsc-os@cpsc.gov. Comments should be captioned "Petition CP 99-2, Petition for Development of a Safety Standard for Bleachers and Grandstands." A copy of the petition is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Reading Room, Room 419, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rockelle Hammond, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207; telephone (301) 504-0800, ext. 1232.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission has received a letter from Representatives Bill Luther and Jim Ramstad requesting that the Commission develop a safety standard for bleachers and grandstands. The Commission is docketing the correspondence as a petition under provisions of the Consumer Product Safety Act, 15 U.S.C. 2051 et seq. The petitioners note that there have been several recent incidents involving children falling through gaps in bleachers at basketball and hockey arenas. In one such incident a six-year-old boy died. The petitioners ask for a standard that would include minimum spacing requirements for gaps in new bleachers. They also request that the Commission issue guidelines for retrofitting older facilities.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the petition by writing or calling the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504-0800. A copy of the petition is also available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Commission's Public Reading Room, Room 419, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

Dated:

Sadye E. Dunn, Secretary
Consumer Product Safety Commission