



**United States
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814**

BALLOT VOTE SHEET

DATE: OCT 21 2009

TO: The Commission
Todd Stevenson, Secretary

THROUGH: Cheryl A. Falvey, General Counsel *CAF*
Maruta Budetti, Executive Director *MB*

FROM: Philip Chao, Assistant General Counsel *PC*
Hyun S. Kim, Attorney *HK*

SUBJECT: Consumer Opinion Forum--Extension of Approval

OCT 28 2009

BALLOT VOTE DUE: _____

Attached for Commission consideration is a draft *Federal Register* notice seeking extension of approval for information collection activities under the Consumer Opinion Forum posted on the CPSC website. Through a registration process, participants may voluntarily respond to questions soliciting opinions and perceptions related to product use through questions posted on the forum. Such renewals for collections of information are subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Under this Act, the first step in obtaining OMB approval is publication of a Federal Register notice providing the opportunity for public comment on the collection of information. Absent renewal, approval for the information collection will expire on December 31, 2009.

Please indicate your vote on the following options:

- I. Approve the Federal Register notice as drafted.

(Signature)

(Date)

Note: This document has not been reviewed or accepted by the Commission.
Initials RH Date 10/21/09

CPSC 6(b)(1) CLEARED for PUBLIC
10/21/09
NO FRGS/PRVTLBLS OR PRODUCTS IDENTIFIED

— EXCEPTED BY: PETITION RULEMAKING ADMIN. PRCDG

II. Approve the Federal Register notice with changes. (Please specify.)

(Signature)

(Date)

III. Do not approve the Federal Register notice.

(Signature)

(Date)

IV. Take other action. (Please specify.)

(Signature)

(Date)

Attachment: Draft *Federal Register* Notice; Proposed Extension of Approval of Information Collection; Comment Request – Consumer Opinion Forum

Billing Code 6355-01-P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Proposed Extension of Approval of Information Collection;

Comment Request - Consumer Opinion Forum

(Docket No. CPSC-2009-00_)

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC or Commission) requests comments on a proposed extension of approval of a collection of information from persons who may voluntarily register and participate in a Consumer Opinion Forum posted on the CPSC website, *www.cpsc.gov*. The Commission will consider all comments received in response to this notice before requesting an extension of this collection of information from the Office of Management and Budget.

DATES: Written comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary not later than **[INSERT DATE WHICH IS 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: **ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CPSC-2009-00__, by any of the following methods:

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

Federal eRulemaking Portal:

<http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. To ensure timely processing of comments, the Commission is no longer accepting comments submitted by electronic mail (e-mail) except through www.regulations.gov.

Submit written submissions in the following way:

Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions), preferably in five copies, to: Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Room 502, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone (301) 504-7923.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this notice. All comments received may be posted without change, including any personal identifiers, contact information, or other personal information provided, to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Do not submit confidential business information, trade secret information, or other sensitive or protected information electronically. Such information should be submitted in writing.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the proposed collection of information call or write Linda L. Glatz, Division of Policy and Planning, Office of Information Technology and Technology Services, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone: (301) 504-7671 or by e-mail to *lglatz@cpsc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

The Commission is authorized under section 5(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA), 15 U.S.C. 2054(a), to conduct studies and investigations relating to the causes and prevention of deaths, accidents, injuries, illnesses, other health impairments, and economic losses associated with consumer products. Section 5(b) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2054(b), further provides that the Commission may conduct research, studies and investigations on the safety of consumer products or test consumer products and develop product safety test methods and testing devices.

In order to better identify and evaluate the risks of product-related incidents, the Commission staff seeks to solicit consumer opinions and perceptions related to consumer product use, on a voluntary basis, through questions posted on the CPSC's Consumer Opinion. Through

the forum, consumers will be able to answer questions and provide information regarding their experiences, opinions and/or perceptions on the use or pattern of use of a specific product or type of product. The Consumer Opinion Forum is intended for consumers, 18 years and older, who have access to the Internet and e-mail, who voluntarily register to participate through a participant registration process, and respond to the questions posted in the Consumer Opinion Forum. A link to the Consumer Opinion Forum login page is available on the CPSC website, www.cpsc.gov. Consumers may link directly to the login page for the Consumer Opinion Forum at <https://www.cpsc.gov/cgi-bin/cof/login.aspx>. When new questions are posted on the CPSC website, registered participants will be invited via e-mail to respond to various questions, but not more frequently than once every four weeks.

The information collected from the Consumer Opinion Forum will help inform the Commission's evaluation of consumer products and product use by providing insight and information into consumer perceptions and usage patterns. Such information may also assist the Commission in its efforts to support voluntary standards activities, and help the staff identify areas regarding consumer safety issues

that need additional research. In addition, based on the information obtained, the staff may be able to provide safety information to the public that is easier to read and is more easily understood by a wider range of consumers. For example, the staff may be able to propose new language or revisions to existing language in warning labels or manuals if the staff finds that certain warning language is perceived by many participants to be unclear or subject to misinterpretation. Finally, the Consumer Opinion Forum may be used to solicit consumer opinions and feedback regarding the effectiveness of product recall communications and in determining what action is being taken by consumers in response to such communications and why. This may aid in tailoring future recall activities to increase the success of those activities. If this information is not collected, the Commission would not have available useful information regarding consumer experiences, opinions, and perceptions related to specific product use, which the Commission relies on in its ongoing efforts to improve the safety of consumer products on behalf of consumers.

B. Estimated Burden

During the past two years, 2,300 individuals have registered to participate in the Consumer Opinion Forum. Although the registration is still open, the Commission

staff does not expect the number of registrants will exceed 5,000 over the next few years. The Commission staff estimates that each respondent will take 10 minutes or less to complete the one-time registration process. Based on that estimate, the registration burden is estimated to have been approximately 192 burden hours per year for 2,300 registrants.

The Commission staff further estimates that the amount of time required to respond to each set of questions on the Consumer Opinion Forum will be 5 minutes or less. The Commission staff foresees the possibility of up to 4 surveys per year. If, at the maximum, each respondent responds to 4 sets of questions over the course of a year, the yearly burden would result in approximately 20 minutes per year for each respondent. Based on an estimated 44 percent response rate for 2,300 potential respondents, the annual burden could total 337 hours. If as many as 5,000 registrants respond, the Commission staff estimates that the annual burden could total approximately 733 hours per year (44 percent response rate for 5,000 potential respondents at 5 minutes per survey for four surveys).

The Commission staff estimates that the total estimated burden for new registrations and surveys, combined, will not exceed 925 hours annually (no more than

733 hours for four surveys per year, plus no more than 192 hours for new registrations). The Commission staff estimated the value of the time of respondents to this collection of information at \$29.39 an hour. This is based on the 2009 U.S. Department of Labor Employer Costs for Employee Compensation. At this valuation, the estimated annual cost to the public of this information collection will be about \$27,000 per year.

The Commission will expend approximately 1 month of professional staff time annually for preparing questions and analysis of responses for each survey. Assuming that 4 surveys will be conducted annually, (and 4 staff months) the total annual cost to the Federal government of the collection of information is estimated to be \$55,360.

C. Request for Comments

The Commission solicits written comments from all interested persons about the proposed collection of information. The Commission specifically solicits information relevant to the following topics:

- Whether the collection of information described above is necessary for the proper performance of the Commission's functions, including whether the information would have practical utility;

- Whether the estimated burden of the proposed collection of information is accurate;
- Whether the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected could be enhanced; and
- Whether the burden imposed by the collection of information could be minimized by use of automated, electronic or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology.

Dated:

Todd A. Stevenson, Secretary,
Consumer Product Safety Commission.