

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

Received

OCT 14 2016

Office of the Chairman

October 5, 2016

The Honorable Elliot F. Kaye  
Chairman, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Chairman Kaye,

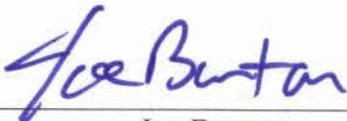
In 2008, Congress directed the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to review the safety of phthalates and their alternatives in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA). As you continue your review, we would like to draw your attention to a few critical points when finalizing regulations over these chemicals.

The chemical and petrochemical industry is vital to Texas. It is the second largest manufacturing industry in the Lone Star State and has created 77,000 jobs resulting in over \$166 billion in state economic activity. Texas alone produces more chemicals that are essential in everyday products used by millions of Americans. A ban on phthalates would significantly impact the economy and result in lost jobs.

In 2014, the CPSC initially endorsed recommendations to ban certain phthalates based on a cumulative risk assessment which utilized outdated data that included chemicals that were previously banned for use in certain products. At the request of Congress in 2015, the CPSC reviewed more recent and appropriate data that accurately reflected the current usage of phthalates in consumer products. Using the original methodology, but excluding the already banned chemicals, these assessments found a significant reduction in risk to well below the designated safety benchmark.

We urge the Commission to utilize the most recent and appropriate data and adhere to sound and reasonable scientific practices when finalizing this regulation. It is critical to tens of thousands of our hardworking constituents.

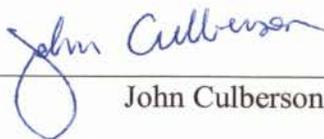
Sincerely,



Joe Barton



Gene Green



John Culberson



Henry Cuellar

*Pete Olson*

Pete Olson

*Bill Flores*

Bill Flores

*Randy K. Weber*

Randy Weber

*Filemon Vela*

Filemon Vela

*Brian Babin*

Brian Babin