



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

Record of Commission Action  
Voting by Ballot

Commissioners Voting:     Chairman Ann Brown (11/29/94)  
  Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall (11/29/94)

ITEM: Possible Amendments to Section 6(b) Regulation

DECISION:

The Commission considered a draft Federal Register notice that would propose amendments to the Commission's section 6(b) regulation governing processing and release of product-specific information. The proposed amendments relate to the CPSC's review of comments submitted by firms, disclosure of such comments, disclosure of consumer complaints, and renotification to firms before disclosure of identical information. In voting on the Federal Register notice, Chairman Brown voted to approve the Federal Register document as drafted while Commissioner Gall voted not to approve the Federal Register document. The Commission being divided, there is, therefore, no decision on proposing amendments to the section 6(b) regulation.

Commissioner Gall filed a statement concerning her vote in this matter, copy attached.

For the Commission:

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

Sadye E. Dunn  
Secretary

Attachment

**Statement of Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall  
on  
Proposed Amendments to the Commission's  
Regulations on Section 6(b) of the  
Consumer Product Safety Act**

**November 30, 1994**

**Today I have voted not to approve the Federal Register notice embodying the staff's proposed changes to the Commission's regulations implementing Section 6(b) of the Consumer Product Act (CPSA). While I am fully supportive of efforts to streamline the Commission's administrative processes, this package proposes substantial policy changes relating to the Commission's public disclosure of information.**

**In general, the staff has proposed that the Commission relieve the offices involved with the public disclosure of information from numerous responsibilities now required by the regulations. These include: assuring accuracy of information to be released, except regarding product misidentification; no longer requiring written confirmation of either oral or written consumer complaints prior to their release; eliminating firms' right to renotification, if requested, when the identical information involving their product is to be released subsequent to the initial notification; and mandating that all comments by firms pertaining to the release of information be made public.**

**Each of these proposed changes serves to alter the purpose and function of this part of the CPSA. Further, rather than reducing paperwork burdens for the Commission staff, I am concerned that these changes will result in a dramatic increase in Freedom of Information Act requests as firms are forced to take additional steps to assure that the public is receiving accurate information when it is released by the Commission.**

**I am committed to implementing more efficient mechanisms for doing the public's work. However, this effort to streamline the Commission's operations must not undertaken in a manner such that we are unable to fulfill our responsibilities under the laws we are charged with upholding.**