



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

CPSC Executive Session  
August 5, 1976

1750 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Presiding: Chairman Byington

Present : Commissioner Franklin  
Commissioner Kushner  
Commissioner Pittle

ITEM

Requirements for child-resistant matchbook cover  
in proposed matchbook standard.

DECISION

On April 1, 1976 the Commission proposed for public comment a consumer product safety standard applicable to matchbooks. The proposal contained requirements that all matchbook covers utilize a design "to reduce the likelihood of young children gaining access to or igniting a bookmatch" (section 1202.4, 41 FR 14117). Of eighty-nine public comments that addressed such requirements, many stated serious reasons for not issuing these or any other child-resistant matchbook cover requirements in final form. These reasons included the possible creation of new safety hazards, the lack of economic feasibility, and the absence of testing and research to support the effectiveness of either the child-resistant cover concept that was proposed or any other such concept. The Commission has considered an oral and a written staff evaluation of these public comments as well as the data on child-resistant covers that existed in the record prior to proposal of the matchbook standard and other such data that were obtained by the Commission since that proposal.

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After careful review of the public comments and the other existing data, the Commission concludes that any final matchbook standard issued by the Commission under the existing notice of proceeding should not include requirements for a child-resistant cover and therefore staff activity directed toward the inclusion of such a provision in the final standard should be terminated.

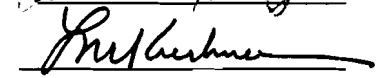
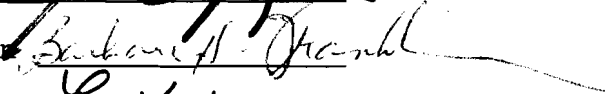
VOTE

Concurring: Chairman Byington

Commissioner Franklin

Commissioner Kushner

Commissioner Pittle



R. David Pittle (by PSA)

Submitted by:  
Office of the General Counsel