



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

Record of Commission Action  
Commissioners Voting by Ballot\*

Commissioners Voting: Chairman Ann Brown  
Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall  
Commissioner Thomas H. Moore

ITEM:

FY 2002 Budget Request

DECISION:

The Commission voted 2-1 to approve a Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 budget request of \$60.5 million and 487 full-time equivalent positions (FTEs), as presented by the staff in the FY 2002 budget recommendation document from the Executive Director dated June 27, 2000. Chairman Brown and Commissioner Moore voted to approve the recommended budget. Commissioner Gall voted not to approve and filed a statement concerning her vote (copy attached).

For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sadye E. Dunn".

Sadye E. Dunn  
Secretary

\* Ballot vote due July 27, 2000



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MARY SHEILA GALL  
FY 2002 BUDGET REQUEST  
JULY 24, 2000**

I voted against the staff-recommended budget of \$60.5 million for FY 2002 because I do not believe that some of the increases proposed by the staff developed budget represent wise uses of resources. I did not support the staff proposal for an additional \$1.2 million, along with an increase of 7 FTEs, for two specific compliance activities: the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and the Safe On-line Shopping (SOS) pilot project. Neither of these activities has been sufficiently evaluated to show that expanding them at the suggested levels would be a cost effective risk reduction activity.

Presently, compliance is our largest program area, utilizing 191 FTEs (40% of our total FTEs) and \$18,384 million in funding support (38% of our total agency budget). The staff recommended expansion in compliance would add an even larger burden on our hazard analysis and reduction programs, consumer information and other services that are already operating under extreme pressure to support our compliance activities.

By eliminating the increases for the SIU and the SOS activities, I arrived at an alternative budget of \$58.4 million. This alternative budget provided for a healthy 11% increase over our current FY 2001 request of \$52.5 million. It included increased funding to provide: \$3.8 million to maintain current services; \$1.5 million for information technology improvements; \$500,000 for modernization of the testing laboratory and \$100,000 to establish an applied research program to be incorporated into our budget base.

Past funding limitations have prevented us from establishing an applied research program. A modest amount of \$100,000 would allow staff to continue to participate in one of our research proposals (smoke alarms) that was funded this year through a partnership, and possibly provide funding for staff to develop plans for other research projects.

We pride ourselves in being a data driven agency. Yet, we have had to continually compromise our plans to maintain and improve our data collection, information technology and laboratory testing activities due to funding limitations. These areas support the total range of agency functions and bolster our compliance activities. We need to concentrate on funding vital improvements for these activities before further expanding our compliance program.