



Twenty years of preventing accidental injury.

March 3, 2008

The Honorable Mark Pryor
Chairman
U.S. Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee,
Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Insurance and Automotive Safety
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Pryor:

On behalf of Safe Kids USA, a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, I am writing to express our appreciation for your sponsorship of S. 2663, the *CPSC Reform Act*. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has a critical role in keeping children and families safe from injury or death related to consumer products. It is the only federal agency that identifies and acts on a wide range of consumer product safety hazards, overseeing everything from toys to bikes to household products. Its multi-faceted programs and initiatives are vital components of a national effort to prevent childhood injuries – the number one killer of children ages 14 and under. Safe Kids USA is proud to count CPSC as one of our longtime partners to keep kids safe.

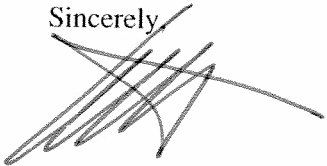
The agency, however, is in much need of additional resources and new authority. The *CPSC Reform Act*, if passed, would help the CPSC modernize its operations and facilities so that it can better fulfill its critical mission of protecting consumers, especially children, from dangerous products. Safe Kids especially supports, among many others, provisions in S. 2045 that would provide for:

- A. an increase in the agency's operating budget;
- B. a reinvestment in the agency's staffing level;
- C. infrastructure improvements to the agency's dilapidated lab facility;
- D. restoring the agency to a five-member Commission;
- E. strengthening the civil penalties for product safety violations; and
- F. banning lead from children's products.

Safe Kids believes that the CPSC must be active guardians of consumer safety and needs the budget support and resources to do so. We also support changes to the CPSC's authorizing statutes that would help the agency better fulfill its broad mission (i.e., better marketplace policing, more effective consumer education, improved testing of products).

If Safe Kids can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 662-4463 or Tanya Chin Ross, Senior Public Policy Associate, at (202) 662-0606. Thank you for your leadership in promoting consumer product safety for children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Korn', written over a horizontal line.

Alan Korn
Director of Public Policy & General Counsel

Safe Kids Worldwide is a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury, a leading killer of children 14 and under. More than 450 coalitions in 16 countries bring together health and safety experts, educators, corporations, foundations, governments and volunteers to educate and protect families.