

JOHN D. DINGELL
15TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

CO-CHAIR

HOUSE GREAT LAKES
TASK FORCE

MEMBER

MIGRATORY BIRD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2215

March 26, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

ROOM 2328
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2215
(202) 225-4071

DISTRICT OFFICES:

19855 WEST OUTER DRIVE
SUITE 103-E
DEARBORN, MI 48124
(313) 278-2936

23 EAST FRONT STREET
SUITE 103
MONROE, MI 48161
(734) 243-1849

301 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 305
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
(734) 481-1100

President Barack H. Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As an author of the original Consumer Product Safety Act in 1972 and a long-standing advocate for better protections for our Nation's consumers, I wholeheartedly support a stronger regulatory framework to ensure the safety of children's products. On March 4, 2009, I wrote to Acting Chairman Nancy A. Nord and Commissioner Thomas Hill Moore of the Consumer Product Safety Commission to request their candid responses to a number of questions concerning the implementation of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (PL 110-314, the "Act"). Although each submitted separate responses to my letter, both confirmed that implementation of the Act has been quite difficult for CPSC, especially in terms of workload for the agency's career staff.

In addition to the resource constraints that may be viewed as hampering CPSC's ability to implement the Act, many of my colleagues and I have been contacted by constituents concerning the Act's impact on their small businesses. For example, manufacturers of children's bicycles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, books, and textiles have a number of unanswered questions concerning the applicability of certain provisions of the Act to their products. In the Nation's present condition of economic turmoil, I feel it only fair that these manufacturers and others be given clarification on this matter in order for them to take adequate measures to comply with the requirements of the Act, as well as preserve the many jobs threatened by this lack of regulatory certainty.

Finally, and as you are no doubt aware, CPSC currently functions with only two of three statutorily permitted commissioners. This impedes transparent and timely rulemaking by CPSC, thereby serving as a further hindrance to CPSC's ability to implement the many provisions of the Act.

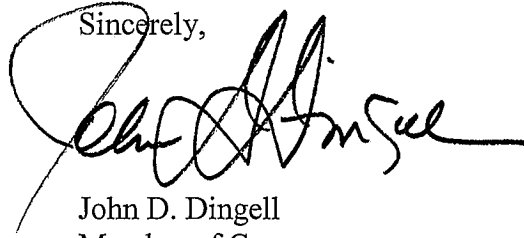
In light of these facts, I respectfully urge you to appoint a third commissioner to CPSC as expeditiously as possible. Doing so will measurably strengthen CPSC's capacity to function as a proper regulatory agency, to say nothing of its effect upon improving CPSC's work to implement the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act.

President Barack H. Obama
Page 2

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Andrew Woelfling on my staff at 202-225-4071.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Dingell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

John D. Dingell
Member of Congress