

GOOD TIMES, INC.

PURVEYORS OF GOOD CLEAN FUN

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February 20, 2009

The Honorable Henry Waxman
The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
The Honorable Joe Barton
The Honorable George P. Radanovich
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Waxman and Rush and Ranking Members Barton and Radanovich:

My family is the owner/operators of a small business (20 employees, \$2.7MM annual sales) that sells toys and novelties to schools and churches in the St. Louis area. We are facing real challenges in complying with the Consumer Product Safety Improvements Act of 2009.

An opinion by the CPSC General Counsel in November, 2008 suggested that products manufactured before the effective date of Feb. 10, 2009 were not subject to the ban on phthalates under the CPSIA.

Now the opinion has been changed so that thousands of dollars of inventory has to be dumped into the landfills which is a loss I am not prepared to take during these tough economic times. In addition to the loss of having to destroy inventory, I am faced with having to wait months for new products to come through the pipeline depressing sales even more than the effects of the economy. The net effect could result in a loss of \$150,000 or more this year. A little more help from my government could put us out of business.

From what I know, phthalates have been around a long time and there is little or no evidence that any child has been sickened due to their presence in any toy products. Therefore the sense of urgency to destroy millions of dollars of existing inventory is beyond my comprehension.

By the way, we are talking about toys that I would have no reservation of giving to my own grandchildren, as I have given to my own children in the past.

The safety of children is paramount. We buy from the larger importers, US Toy in Kansas City, Oriental Trading in Omaha, Rhode Island Novelty among others who are all good citizens and have in place the new mandated toy testing procedures for product going forward. They have been of big help identifying the possible problem items that we need to pull off our shelves. Everyone is working hard to comply with expensive, and in my humble opinion, burdensome ill conceived legislation.

Everyone is working hard to comply, but we need help to bridge the time period to get there. We need help now to stay in business, and you gentlemen are the only ones who can help us at this time.

HELP US...PLEASE

Thank you for listening,

Robert Dawson
President
Good Times Inc