

*December 19, 2007*

Washington, D.C. – With Christmas less than a week away and with an eye to this year’s continually expanding toy market, U.S. House of Representatives member Bill McNerney (R-CA) today announced that he has introduced H.R. 4040, the Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act.

“This year, millions of toys and other children’s products have been recalled due to unsafe levels of toxic chemicals, and the CPSC has been unable to act quickly enough to prevent these recalls,” McNerney said.

“Unfortunately, under the Bush Administration, the staff at the Consumer Product Safety Commission has been reduced by 50 percent, and the CPSC’s budget has been cut by 20 percent.”

H.R. 4040, the Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act passed the House this afternoon.

This legislation accomplishes a number of critically important objectives, including toughening safety standards for toys and children’s products, and improving the CPSC’s ability to communicate information about product recalls.

The Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act creates the toughest lead standard in the world for children’s toys, and also sets a lead standard for children’s furniture.

The bill requires mandatory safety standards for nursery products like cribs and high chairs and also requires mandatory safety standards for children’s toys.

Importantly, this legislation also improves the CPSC’s ability to communicate information about product recalls, and requires the CPSC to publish a list of recalled products on its website.

H.R. 4040 also:

- Requires mandatory third-party testing children's products by certified laboratories.
- Increases the cap on civil penalties to \$10 million and authorizes State attorneys general to sue to
- Increases CPSC resources to hire additional staff and for laboratory renovations, including \$20 mil
- Bans travel by CPSC Commissioners and staff that is paid for by an organization regulated by the