

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 13, 2008

The Hon. Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Joe Barton
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Bobby Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade
and Consumer Protection
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Ed Whitfield
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade
and Consumer Protection
2322-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members;

It has come to our attention that the implementation of the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act, which was signed into law during the 110th Congress, may unexpectedly threaten the vitality of small businesses across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The passage of various safety enhancements included in the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act was critical in the midst of numerous high-profile toy recalls in 2007. However, it appears the legislation that passed the House with broad bipartisan support also created many unintended consequences that will challenge businesses of all sizes and may force some to cease production.

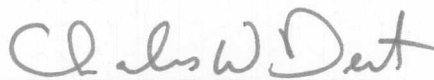
While we agree it is critically important to ensure the products Americans purchase are safe and free of hazardous contaminants, it is evident the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act needs clarification and refinement. Without modification, this legislation will irreparably damage valuable Pennsylvania businesses and jeopardize the jobs of many of our constituents.

In the throes of an increasingly painful economic recession, it is imperative that Congress works to help businesses operating in good faith comply with these new regulations – a daunting process many family-owned and operated businesses have found difficult and expensive. These businesses want nothing more than to maintain production in compliance with these new regulations. However, particularly smaller operations are fearful the cost associated with achieving compliance may be too high to remain solvent.

In light of this, we believe the Committee on Energy and Commerce should consider hosting a hearing on this matter as soon as possible to analyze the economic impact of the bill's implementation, and determine proper action for Congress to take to ensure the viability of local businesses and address the plight of the workers they employ.

Wish best wishes,

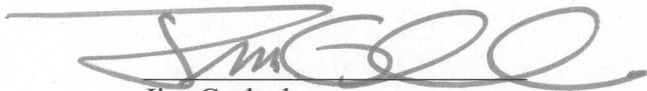
Sincerely,



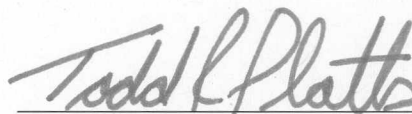
Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress



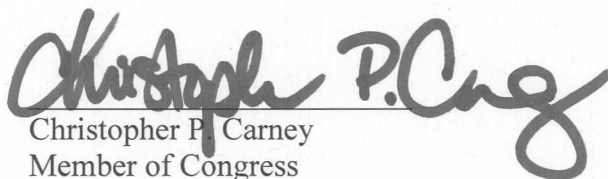
Tim Holden
Member of Congress



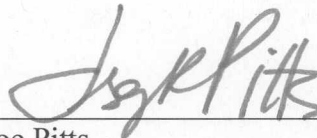
Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress



Todd Russell Platts
Member of Congress



Christopher P. Carney
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts
Member of Congress