

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR GREATER OVERSIGHT BY THE TOY INDUSTRY

I am concerned about toy safety and the increased number of toy recalls. I add my voice to that of the New York State Consumer Protection Board's (CPB) and call upon toy manufacturers, retailers and others to increase their standards and oversight of toy production.

Toys are an important part of child development but with all the recalls I now feel unsure about their safety.

I feel strongly that toy manufacturers should put processes in place to independently test toys to assure that those we purchase are safe. It's their responsibility.

I also call on retailers to do their part. While they don't actually make the toys, they must be required to stay current with recalls and immediately remove recalled items from the stream of commerce by taking them off their shelves and disposing of them properly.

Furthermore, the secondary market should be prevented from accepting recalled items for sale. In order to assure that recalled items don't find their way back into the marketplace through thrift stores, as well as via the Internet, these venues must also step up their involvement and surveillance to assure that the toys they sell are safe.

Because recalls, and the accompanying recall notices, are vital to keeping the public informed and out-of-harms way, manufacturers recalling toys must issue comprehensive notices which need to be conspicuously and consistently displayed by all those who sell these products.

I therefore petition manufacturers, importers, suppliers, retailers and representatives of secondary markets and urge them to restore the public trust in the marketplace by working together to implement new toy safety testing and retail procedures.

I applaud the CPB for what it is doing to increase awareness about toy safety, and hope the Agency will continue to do everything in its power to intervene on behalf of all consumers so that we can once again be confident that the toys we buy will only bring joy, not harm, to kids.

Instructions to the Public:

To express or register your support for this statement, please send an e-mail to toytesting@consumer.state.ny.us. In the e-mail, please either:

- Copy and paste the above text into the e-mail and send it to the CPB.
- or
- Create your own message stating you support increased toy testing and safety protocols and send it to the CPB

You may also wish to mail a statement to toy manufacturers or retailers of your choice, letting the company know you want increased toy testing and safety protocols implemented right away. Your information will be used by the CPB solely for the purpose of the Toy Safety Campaign.