



June 23, 2009

AmericanMotorcyclist.com

The Honorable José E. Serrano
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jo Ann Emerson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Serrano and Ranking Member Emerson:

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) is a not-for-profit national organization founded in 1924. In partnership with our sister organization, the All-Terrain Vehicle Association (ATVA), we represent the interests of millions of motorcyclists. We write today to urge you to support the amendment offered by Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-MT) that prohibits the use of funds to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) for the implementation or enforcement of section 101(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) as it relates to youth-model off-highway motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).

Recently, the CPSC ruled on a request from the youth-model motorcycle and ATV industry seeking exclusion from lead content limits under section 101(b) of the CPSIA. While the CPSC voted to deny the request for exclusion they ultimately voted to support a stay of enforcement of section 101(b) of the CPSIA regarding youth-model off-highway motorcycles and ATVs.

The decision to deny the petition by the CPSC was based on a narrow interpretation of the CPSIA that was not the intention of Congress. Additionally, the restricted reading of the law by the commissioners tied the hands of CPSC staff when reviewing the petition and drafting their report on whether the exclusion should or should not be granted.

The AMA requests that the amendment offered by Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-MT) to prohibit funds to implement or enforce section 101(b) of the CPSIA by the CPSC be included in the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill. The misinterpretation of the law has placed both Congress and the families that want their children to be able to recreate with them in the position of needing to rectify the situation. Denying the application of appropriated funds for such a use can help the CPSC direct their focus and funding on the products originally intended to be covered by the law.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Rick Podliska
Washington Representative

Cc: Chairman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee