

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Henry Waxman, Chair
Energy and Commerce Committee
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking
Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
2109 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush, Chair
Commerce, Trade, and Consumer
Protection Subcommittee
2416 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Radanovich,
Ranking Member
Commerce, Trade, and Consumer
Protection Subcommittee
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

As the Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection Subcommittee conducts a hearing titled, "Consumer Product Safety Commission Oversight: Current Issues and a Vision for the Future" on Thursday, September 10, Goodwill Industries International, Inc. (Goodwill Industries) urges you to consider the unintended consequences that the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) (P.L. 110-314) have affected nonprofit resellers, such as Goodwill, that sell donated children's products to support the delivery of mission services. It is important that future hearings take into account the concerns that the business community, especially resellers, have raised over the implementation of the CPSIA.

Goodwill Industries' network of 159 local Goodwill agencies provides jobs, job placement and training to people with disabilities and other barriers to employment through revenues raised in donated goods stores. Goodwill Industries wholeheartedly agrees with those who supported passing the CPSIA in order to create a safety net that protects all children from exposure to products that have dangerous lead levels. Throughout Goodwill's more than 100 year history, our first priority has always been the safety and well-being of the people that we serve, the families who shop at our stores, and our donors and community partners. Goodwill Industries has a long and distinguished track record of working with the CPSC to ensure that potentially dangerous products never make it to our store shelves. Before a product is placed for sale at a local Goodwill store, we confirm that the product is not on the CPSC's product recall list. Products found on the recall list are disposed of in compliance with the law.

As you consider the challenges that the CPSC currently faces and its vision for the future, it is worth noting that Goodwill Industries has partnered with the CPSC in a public awareness campaign to work in concert to educate shoppers and employees about the hazards of certain products and proper recall procedures. Goodwill Industries recognizes Chairwoman Tenenbaum's efforts. While the unintended consequences of the CPSIA

certainly has the potential to have negative impact on local Goodwills and the communities they serve, Goodwill Industries has been pleased to be part of this collaborative effort. Goodwill Industries looks forward to being part of ongoing discussions and solutions with the CPSC and Congress regarding implementation of the CPSIA and its potential to negatively impact our communities, as we continue to ensure the safety of the people we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Gibbons", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Gibbons
President and CEO

cc: Commerce Trade, and Consumer Protection Subcommittee Members