

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1798

To provide for comprehensive fire safety standards for upholstered furniture, mattresses, bedclothing, and candles.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 30, 2003

Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. BREAUX, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. REED) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide for comprehensive fire safety standards for upholstered furniture, mattresses, bedclothing, and candles.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Home Fire
5 Safety Act”.

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

23 (6) Upholstered furniture fires were responsible
24 for 520 deaths in 1998, with little statistical change
25 in the number of fires and deaths since 1994.

16 (10) The Consumer Product Safety Commission
17 is the appropriate agency to develop and enforce
18 such standards.

19 (11) The Environmental Protection Agency
20 should continue to review and determine the suit-
21 ability of any materials used to meet any fire safety
22 standard established as a result of this Act.

23 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

9 SEC. 3. CONSUMER PRODUCT FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS.

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Within 90 days after the date of
11 enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Com-
12 mission shall promulgate, as final consumer product safety
13 standards under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety
14 Act (15 U.S.C. 2058), the following fire safety standards:

15 (1) UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE.—A fire safety
16 standard for upholstered furniture that is substan-
17 tially the same as the provisions of Technical Bul-
18 letin 117, “Requirements, Test Procedure and Appa-
19 ratus for testing the Flame and Smolder Resistance
20 of Upholstered Furniture)” published by the State
21 of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, Bu-
22 reau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation,
23 February 2002.

24 (2) MATTRESSES.—A fire safety standard for
25 mattresses that is substantially the same as Tech-

1 nical Bulletin 603, "Requirements and Test Pro-
2 cedure for Resistance of a Residential Mattress/Box
3 Spring Set to a Large Open Flame", published by
4 the State of California, Department of Consumer
5 Affairs, Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal
6 Insulation, February 2003.

21 (b) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN PROMULGATION RE-
22 QUIREMENTS.—The requirements of subsections (a)
23 through (f) of section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety
24 Act (15 U.S.C. 2058), and section 36 of that Act (15
25 U.S.C. 2083), do not apply to the consumer product safety

1 standards required to be promulgated by subsection (a)
2 of this section.

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