



OFFICE OF ADVOCACY *FACTSHEET*

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Advocacy Requests that CPSC Publish A Small Business Compliance Guide for the Flammability of Mattresses Rule

On November 2, 2006, the Office of Advocacy (Advocacy) sent a letter to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) asking that the agency comply with Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) by providing small mattress manufacturers with a compliance guide instructing the industry on how it is expected to comply with the Consumer Standards for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattresses final rule. The rule has an effective date of July 1, 2007. A copy of Advocacy's letter may be accessed at <http://www.sba.gov/advo/laws/comments>.

- On March 15, 2006, the CPSC published the Consumer Standards for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattresses final rule in the *Federal Register* (71 Fed. Reg. 13472). The new standards established the performance requirements for mattresses exposed to an open flame. CPSC's goal was to assure that mattresses would generate a smaller size fire with a slower growth rate thereby reducing the chances of a flash fire.
- Advocacy received several inquiries from small mattress manufacturers, forwarded by the U.S. Small Business Administration's [Office of the National Ombudsman](#), voicing concern about their ability to comply with the regulation.
- In its November 2, 2006, letter to the CPSC, Advocacy asked that the agency comply with Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) by providing small mattress manufacturers with a compliance guide instructing the industry on how it is expected to comply with the regulation. Advocacy hopes that a plain English compliance guide will help small businesses gain a better understanding of the rule's requirements.

For more information, visit Advocacy's web page at www.sba.gov/advo or contact Linwood Rayford at (202) 205-6533.