

# **SUMMARY: H.R. 4212 - DRYWALL SAFETY ACT OF 2012**

**Section 1: Short Title - The Drywall Safety Act**

**Section 2: A sense of Congress that-**

- (1) The Secretary of Commerce insist that the Chinese Government, which has ownership interests in the companies that manufactured and exported problematic drywall to the US, facilitate a meeting between the companies and the representatives of the US government on remedying homeowners that have problematic drywall; and
- (2) The Secretary of Commerce insist that the Chinese Government direct the companies that manufactured and exported problematic drywall to submit to jurisdiction in the US Federal Courts and comply with decisions issued by the Courts on problematic drywall.

**Section 3: Drywall Labeling Requirement**

- (1) Starting 180 days after enactment of the bill, the gypsum board labeling provisions of ASTM International shall be treated as a rule by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). The labeling provisions require that each sheet of drywall be labeled with the name of the manufacturer and the month and year the drywall was manufactured.
- (2) In the event the gypsum board labeling provisions are revised in the future, then ASTM International shall notify CPSC of the revision within 60 days of ASTM approving the revision. CPSC will treat the revised labeling requirement as the rule within 180 days of the Commission being notified of the revision.

**Section 4: Sulfur Content in Drywall Standard**

- (1) Not more than 2 years after enactment of the bill, the CPSC shall promulgate a rule pertaining to drywall manufactured or imported for use in the US that limits sulfur content to a level that is not association with elevated rates of corrosion in the home.
- (2) An exception is provided in the event that CPSC determines that a voluntary industry standard that limits sulfur content in drywall manufactured or imported for use in the US to prevent elevated rates of corrosion in the home; that the voluntary standard will be in effect not more than two years after the bill is enacted; and the voluntary standard is developed by ASTM International.
- (3) The CPSC can initiate rulemaking in the future to modify the sulfur content limit or to include any provision relating only to the composition or characteristics of drywall that the CPSC determines is reasonably necessary to protect the public health and safety.

**Section 5: Revision of Remediation Guidance for Drywall Disposal Requirement**

Not more than 120 days after the bill is enacted, the CPSC shall revise its “Remediation Guidance for Homes with Corrosion from Problem Drywall” to specify that problem drywall removed from homes should not be used in the production of new drywall.