

UNITED STATES CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY BETHESDA, MD 20814

COMMISSIONER PETER A. FELDMAN

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER FELDMAN ON MIDYEAR 2021 REVIEW MARCH 25, 2021

I want to thank staff and my fellow Commissioners for their work on the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Fiscal Year 2021 Mid-Year Review. This process is designed to allow for transparent and thoughtful consideration of how to allocate unexpended agency funds for the remainder of the fiscal year. I appreciate my colleagues' support of my amendment prohibiting the use of taxpayer dollars for social media influencers.

While I am also excited this Midyear spending plan funds a number of important diversity initiatives which I support, I believe consumers will be best protected if we meet the Congressional mandate to increase inspectors at the nation's ports as soon as possible. I am concerned that the Commission has chosen to delay further these important hires. While I am told the agency will take up some of these items in the future, the Commission could have made a down payment today.

I also offered common-sense planning amendments which were not included. Instead, the Commission put the cart in front of the horse. It is important that the Commission proceed holistically and transparently to prioritize our scarce resources. For these reasons, I voted to oppose final passage of this plan.