

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1640

To require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23 (legislative day, MAY 22), 2019

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

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 “Portable Fuel Con-
5 tainer Safety Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS TO PROTECT AGAINST**
 2 **PORTABLE FUEL CONTAINER EXPLOSIONS**
 3 **NEAR OPEN FLAMES OR OTHER IGNITION**
 4 **SOURCES.**

5 (a) RULE ON SAFETY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
 6 REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 months after the date of
 7 enactment of this section, the Consumer Product Safety
 8 Commission (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”)
 9 shall promulgate a final rule to require flame mitigation
 10 devices in portable fuel containers that impede the propa-
 11 gation of flame into the container, except as provided in
 12 subsection (c).

13 (b) RULEMAKING; CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY
 14 STANDARD.—A rule under subsection (a)—

15 (1) shall be promulgated in accordance with
 16 section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

17 (2) shall be treated as a consumer product safe-
 18 ty rule promulgated under section 9 of the Con-
 19 sumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

20 (c) EXCEPTION.—

21 (1) VOLUNTARY STANDARD.—Subsection (a)
 22 shall not apply if the Commission determines that—

23 (A) there is a voluntary standard for flame
 24 mitigation devices in portable fuel containers
 25 that impedes the propagation of flame into the
 26 container, or a combination of more than one

1 voluntary standard which taken together serve
2 such purpose for the full scope of this Act;

3 (B) the voluntary standard or combination
4 of voluntary standards described in subpara-
5 graph (A) is or will be in effect not later than
6 18 months after the date of enactment of this
7 Act; and

8 (C) the voluntary standard or combination
9 of voluntary standards described in subpara-
10 graph (A) is developed by ASTM International
11 or such other standard development organiza-
12 tion that the Commission determines to have
13 met the intent of this Act.

14 (2) DETERMINATION REQUIRED TO BE PUB-
15 LISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.—Any deter-
16 mination made by the Commission under this sub-
17 section shall be published in the Federal Register.

18 (d) TREATMENT OF VOLUNTARY STANDARD FOR
19 PURPOSE OF ENFORCEMENT.—If the Commission deter-
20 mines that a voluntary standard meets the conditions de-
21 scribed in subsection (c), the requirements of such vol-
22 untary standard shall be treated as a consumer product
23 safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer
24 Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058) beginning on the
25 date which is the later of—

1 (1) 180 days after publication of the Commis-
2 sion's determination under subsection (c); or

3 (2) the effective date contained in the voluntary
4 standard.

5 (e) REVISION OF VOLUNTARY STANDARD.—

6 (1) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—If the require-
7 ments of a voluntary standard that meet the condi-
8 tions of subsection (c) are subsequently revised, the
9 organization that revised the standard shall notify
10 the Commission after the final approval of the revi-
11 sion.

12 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF REVISION.—Not later
13 than 180 days after the Commission is notified of a
14 revised voluntary standard described in paragraph
15 (1) (or such later date as the Commission deter-
16 mines appropriate), such revised voluntary standard
17 shall become enforceable as a consumer product
18 safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Con-
19 sumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058), in
20 place of the prior version, unless within 90 days
21 after receiving the notice the Commission determines
22 that the revised voluntary standard does not meet
23 the requirements described in subsection (c).

24 (f) FUTURE RULEMAKING.—The Commission, at any
25 time after publication of the consumer product safety rule

1 required by subsection (a), a voluntary standard is treated
2 as a consumer product safety rule under subsection (d),
3 or a revision is enforceable as a consumer product safety
4 rule under subsection (e) may initiate a rulemaking in ac-
5 cordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code,
6 to modify the requirements or to include any additional
7 provision that the Commission determines is reasonably
8 necessary to protect public health or safety. Any rule pro-
9 mulgated under this subsection shall be treated as a con-
10 sumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of
11 the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

12 (g) ACTION REQUIRED.—

13 (1) EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.—Not later than 1
14 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
15 Commission shall undertake a campaign to educate
16 consumers about the dangers associated with using
17 or storing portable fuel containers for flammable liq-
18 uids near an open flame or any other source of igni-
19 tion.

20 (2) SUMMARY OF ACTIONS.—Not later than 2
21 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the
22 Commission shall submit to Congress a summary of
23 actions taken by the Commission in such campaign.

24 (h) PORTABLE FUEL CONTAINER DEFINED.—In this
25 section, the term “portable fuel container” means any con-

1 tainer or vessel (including any spout, cap, and other clo-
 2 sure mechanism or component of such container or vessel
 3 or any retrofit or aftermarket spout or component in-
 4 tended or reasonably anticipated to be for use with such
 5 container)—

6 (1) intended for flammable liquid fuels with a
 7 flash point less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit, includ-
 8 ing gasoline, kerosene, diesel, ethanol, methanol, de-
 9 natured alcohol, or biofuels;

10 (2) that is a consumer product with a capacity
 11 of 5 gallons or less; and

12 (3) that the manufacturer knows or reasonably
 13 should know is used by consumers for receiving,
 14 transporting, storing, and dispensing flammable liq-
 15 uid fuels.

16 (i) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—This section may not
 17 be interpreted to conflict with the Children’s Gasoline
 18 Burn Prevention Act (Public Law 110–278; 122 Stat.
 19 2602).

20 **SEC. 3. CHILDREN’S GASOLINE BURN PREVENTION ACT.**

21 (a) **AMENDMENT.**—Section 2(c) of the Children’s
 22 Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 2056 note; Pub-
 23 lic Law 110–278) is amended by inserting after “for use
 24 by consumers” the following: “and any receptacle for gaso-
 25 line, kerosene, or diesel fuel, including any spout, cap, and

1 other closure mechanism and component of such recep-
2 tacle or any retrofit or aftermarket spout or component
3 intended or reasonably anticipated to be for use with such
4 receptacle, produced or distributed for sale to or use by
5 consumers for transport of, or refueling of internal com-
6 bustion engines with, gasoline, kerosene, or diesel fuel”.

7 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by sub-
8 section (a) shall take effect 6 months after the date of
9 enactment of this section.

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