Proposed rule.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, the Commission is issuing a proposed rule that would establish safety standards for full-size and non-full-size cribs that are substantially the same as voluntary standards ASTM F 1169–10, Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Full-Size Baby Cribs, and ASTM F 406–10, Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs. The Commission proposes to incorporate these ASTM standards by reference with certain modifications to strengthen them. The proposed standards, as modified, would include provisions in both the full-size and non-full-size crib standards that address the risk of crib slat disengagement the Commission identified in the ANPR.

B. Withdrawal of the ANPR

The rulemaking that the Commission is now initiating under section 104(b) of the CPSIA proposes to establish new requirements for full-size and non-full-size cribs that will include the requirements of the Commission’s existing regulations codified at 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 and additional requirements in the ASTM voluntary standards. Because these new crib standards will include performance tests to address the risk of crib slat disengagement, the Commission is withdrawing the ANPR published December 16, 1996, 61 FR 65997, and terminating that rulemaking.

Dated: July 14, 2010.

Todd Stevenson,
Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

[FR Doc. 2010–17590 Filed 7–22–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6355–01–P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
16 CFR Parts 1508 and 1509

Revocation of Requirements for Full-Size Baby Cribs and Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: Section 104(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (“CPSIA”) requires the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (“CPSIC” or “Commission”) to promulgate consumer product safety standards for durable infant or toddler products. These standards are to be “substantially the same as” applicable voluntary standards or more stringent than the voluntary standard if the Commission concludes that the existing standard requirements would further reduce the risk of injury associated with the product.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
16 CFR Parts 1508 and 1509

[CPSC Docket No. CPSC–2010–0075]

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: Section 104(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (“CPSIA”) requires the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (“CPSIC” or “Commission”) to promulgate consumer product safety standards for durable infant or toddler products. These standards are to be “substantially the same as” applicable voluntary standards or more stringent than the voluntary standard if the Commission concludes that the existing standard requirements would further reduce the risk of injury associated with the product.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
16 CFR Parts 1508 and 1509

[CPSC Docket No. CPSC–2010–0075]
voluntary standards or more stringent than the voluntary standard if the Commission concludes that more stringent requirements would further reduce the risk of injury associated with the product. The Commission is proposing to revoke its existing regulations pertaining to full-size and non-full-size cribs because, elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, the Commission is proposing consumer product safety standards for cribs that will further reduce the risk of injury associated with these products under section 104 of the CPSIA. The consumer product safety standard for cribs would include the requirements that are currently found at 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 for full-size and non-full-size cribs. To eliminate duplication, the Commission is proposing to remove 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 entirely.

DATES: Written comments must be received by October 6, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments, identified by Docket No. CPSC–2010–0075, may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submissions
Submit electronic comments in the following way: Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. To ensure timely processing of comments, the Commission is no longer accepting comments submitted by electronic mail (e-mail) except through http://www.regulations.gov.

Written Submissions
Submit written submissions in the following way:

Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions), preferably in five copies, to: Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Room 502, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone (301) 504–7923.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this rulemaking. All comments received may be posted without change, including any personal identifiers, contact information, or other personal information provided, to http://www.regulations.gov. Do not submit confidential business information, trade secret information, or other sensitive or protected information electronically. Such information should be submitted in writing.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Patricia Edwards, Project Manager, Directorate for Engineering Sciences, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone (301) 504–7577; pedwards@cpsc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
A. What regulations is the CPSC proposing to revoke?


B. Why is CPSC proposing to revoke the regulations pertaining to cribs?

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, Public Law 110–314 (“CPSIA”) was enacted on August 14, 2008. Section 104(b) of the CPSIA requires the Commission to promulgate consumer product safety standards for durable infant or toddler products. These standards are to be “substantially the same as” applicable voluntary standards or more stringent than the voluntary standard if the Commission concludes that more stringent requirements would further reduce the risk of injury associated with the product. Elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, the Commission is proposing safety standards for full-size and non-full-size cribs under the authority of section 104 of the CPSIA. These new proposed standards, if finalized, will adopt the voluntary standards developed by ASTM International (formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials), which are more stringent in some respects than the current applicable standards, and include ASTM F 1169–10, “Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Full-Size Baby Cribs,” and ASTM F 406–10, “Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non- Full-Size Baby Cribs/Play Yards.” The proposed standards which the CPSC is publishing elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register incorporate all of the requirements currently found in 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509. Consequently, if the Commission issues a final rule to adopt the consumer product safety standards for full-size and non-full-size cribs pursuant to section 104(b) of the CPSIA, the requirements found at 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 would become redundant. The Commission, therefore, intends to revoke 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 in their entirety.

The Commission emphasizes that the proposed revocation of 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 would have no substantive effect on crib safety. The requirements currently found at 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 would still apply to full-size and non-full-size cribs, but would be part of new consumer product safety standards to be codified at 16 CFR parts 1219 and 1220.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

This proposed rule would not impose any information collection requirements. Accordingly, this rule is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

D. Environmental Considerations

This proposed rule falls within the scope of the Commission’s environmental review regulation at 16 CFR 1021.5(c)(1), which provides a categorical exclusion from any requirement for the agency to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for rules that revoke product safety standards.

E. Effective Date

The Commission proposes that a final rule to revoke 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 become effective upon the effective date of the new mandatory standards to be developed for full-size and non-full-size cribs.

List of Subjects in 16 CFR Parts 1508 and 1509

Consumer protection, Cribs and bassinets, Infants and children, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons stated above, and under the authority of section 3 of the CPSIA and 5 U.S.C. 553, the Consumer Product Safety Commission proposes to remove 16 CFR parts 1508 and 1509 entirely.

PART 1508—[REMOVED]

1. Under authority of section 3 of the CPSIA, part 1508 is removed entirely.

PART 1509—[REMOVED]

2. Under authority of section 3 of the CPSIA, part 1509 is removed entirely.
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Internal Revenue Service
26 CFR Part 54
[REG—125592–10]
RIN 1545–BJ62

Requirements for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review Processes Under the Affordable Care Act

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking by cross-reference to temporary regulations.

SUMMARY: Elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, the IRS is issuing temporary regulations under the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the Affordable Care Act) regarding internal claims and appeals and external review processes. The IRS is issuing the temporary regulations at the same time that the Department of Labor and the Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are issuing substantially similar interim final regulations with respect to group health plans and health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act. The temporary regulations provide guidance to employers, group health plans, and health insurance issuers providing group health insurance coverage. The text of those temporary regulations also serves as the text of these proposed regulations.

DATES: Written or electronic comments and requests for a public hearing must be received by October 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send submissions to: CC:PA:LPD:FR (REG—125592–10), Room 5205, Internal Revenue Service, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. Submissions may be hand-delivered to:

Dated: July 14, 2010.
Todd A. Stevenson,
Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Explanation of Provisions

The temporary regulations published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register add § 54.9815–2719T to the Miscellaneous Excise Tax Regulations. The proposed and temporary regulations are being published as part of a joint rulemaking with the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services (the joint rulemaking). The text of those temporary regulations also serves as the text of these proposed regulations. The preamble to the temporary regulations explains the temporary regulations and these proposed regulations.

Special Analyses

It has been determined that this notice of proposed rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action as defined in Executive Order 12866. Therefore, a regulatory assessment is not required. It has also been determined that section 553(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 5) does not apply to this proposed regulation. It is hereby certified that the collections of information contained in this notice of proposed rulemaking will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, a regulatory flexibility analysis under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6) is not required. Section 54.9815–2719T of the temporary regulations requires both group health insurance issuers and group health plans to establish internal claims and appeals and external review processes for adverse benefit determinations. Those processes require the plan and issuer to disclose evidence relied upon in making an adverse benefit determination, to disclose any new rationale for upholding an adverse benefit determination as part of an internal appeal, to provide notice of an adverse benefit determination and of a final internal adverse benefit determination, and to disclose the right to an external review. Under the temporary regulations, if a health insurance issuer satisfies the obligations to have effective internal claims and appeals and external review processes (including these information collection requirements that are an inherent part of those processes), those obligations are satisfied not just for the issuer but also for the group health plan. For group health plans maintained by small entities, it is anticipated that the health insurance issuer will satisfy those obligations to have effective internal claims and appeals and external review processes (including these information collection requirements that are an inherent part of those processes) for both the plan and the issuer in almost all cases. For this reason, these information collection requirements will not impose a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. Pursuant to section 7805(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, this regulation has been submitted to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration for comment on its impact on small business.

Comments and Requests for a Public Hearing

Before these proposed regulations are adopted as final regulations, consideration will be given to any written comments (a signed original and eight (8) copies) or electronic comments that are submitted timely to the IRS. Comments are specifically requested on the clarity of the proposed regulations and how they may be made easier to understand. All comments will be available for public inspection and copying. A public hearing may be scheduled if requested in writing by a person that timely submits written comments. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the date, time, and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

Drafting Information

The principal author of these proposed regulations is Karen Levin, Office of the Division Counsel/Associate Chief Counsel (Tax Exempt and Government Entities), IRS. The proposed regulations, as well as the temporary regulations, have been developed in coordination with personnel from the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.