



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
July 22, 1998
4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, Maryland

The July 22, 1998, meeting of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission was convened in open session at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Ann Brown. Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall and Commissioner Thomas H. Moore were present.

Agenda Item: Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Recommendation

The Commission considered the agency's preliminary budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2000. On July 15, 1998, the Commission staff briefed the Commission on a recommended budget of \$56.7 million and 492 full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) as set forth in the 2000 Preliminary Budget Request document transmitted by memorandum dated July 1, 1998, from the Executive Director to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Gall offered an alternative budget proposal of \$50 million containing the following elements: (1) FY 1999 Budget Request Base (pending action in Congress), includes 480 FTEs - \$46,500,000; (2) Current Services (reflecting anticipated FY 2000 inflation), to meet price increases including salary, retirement, rent, and non-salary inflation - \$1,750,000; (3) Information Technology, to integrate, upgrade, and maintain data bases and equipment - \$1,400,000; (4) Hazard Assessment and Reduction: Update Product Population Model - \$185,000, Research Initiative - \$50,000, Lab Equipment - \$50,000; and (5) Human Resources Management, training opportunities - \$65,000.

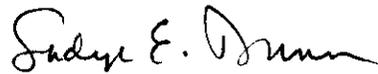
A motion by Commissioner Gall to adopt the alternative budget proposal failed by vote of 1-2, with Commissioner Gall voting in favor and Chairman Brown and Commissioner Moore voting in opposition.

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On motion of Chairman Brown, the Commission voted 2-1 to approve a FY 2000 budget request of \$56.7 million and 492 FTEs as presented by the staff in the FY 2000 budget recommendation document dated July 1, 1998. Chairman Brown and Commissioner Moore voted in favor. Commissioner Gall voted in dissent. Commissioner Moore and Commissioner Gall filed statements concerning their respective votes, copies attached.

There being no further business on the agenda, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting.

For the Commission:



Sadye E. Dunn
Secretary

Attachments

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER THOMAS HILL MOORE
ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2000 BUDGET
July 22, 1998

I have voted to support the fiscal year 2000 budget of \$56.7 million as proposed by the staff.

As is always the case, a significant portion of the proposed increase would fund unavoidable expenses, either increases in salary, benefits and rent, or critical investments in information technology. Just in the short time I have been here I have seen the agency make great progress in the information technology area. Our ability to process the enormous amount of data which flows into this agency on a daily basis depends on having a technological infrastructure which is both reliable and adaptable.

I think this budget shows the results of a tremendous cooperative effort among the various departments in the agency. It presents a coherent, integrated approach to meeting our Results Act goals and provides a framework for future activities-- particularly with the inclusion of a much-needed research budget--which will move us toward the successful achievement of those goals.



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**Statement of the Honorable Mary Sheila Gall
on FY 2000 Budget Request**

I voted against the staff recommended FY 2000 Budget Request of \$56.724 million. This proposal is a 22% increase over our FY 1999 budget request of \$46.5 million. Over the past several years the agency has received budget increases in the range of 3% to 6%. I offered a *realistic* alternative budget proposal of \$50 million, which provides an 8% increase over our FY 1999 Budget Request of \$46.500. Regrettably, my fellow Commissioners did not concur with my alternative proposal.

My amendment would have funded current services. Additionally, it provided \$1.75 million for important investments such as improvements in our data collection/analysis, and information technology systems. These funds would allow CPSC to continue its progress in meeting the recommendations of the GAO report. I also recommended increasing funds for technical training and establishing a modest research budget.