

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 9, 2011

The Honorable Inez Moore Tenenbaum
Consumer Product Safety Commission
4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Chairman Tenenbaum:

We are writing to urge the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to complete its scientific studies and release the final remediation guidance for homeowners with tainted Chinese drywall as soon as possible. Homeowners with tainted Chinese drywall have had their lives turned upside down and have been waiting months for the final remediation guidance from the CPSC so that they can finally and fully repair their homes. It is well past time that the CPSC complete and release the final remediation guidance for Chinese drywall victims.

As you are aware, thousands of homeowners in thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa have been enduring an emergency situation in which tainted drywall from China has been causing ever worsening destruction and damage to their homes. In addition, homeowners and their families living in homes with tainted Chinese drywall have been experiencing serious health problems. The tainted drywall corrodes copper piping and wiring in homes, which causes the failure of air conditioning systems, telecommunications wiring, wiring for lighting, and other household appliances. Such corrosion produces potential fire and safety hazards in homes and causes undue financial hardship for homeowners who are constantly forced to replace and repair essential appliances.

Moreover, the damage to the housing structure caused by the tainted Chinese drywall and the health effects on families, forces many people to use their limited finances on alternative housing while also having to maintain the mortgages on homes that are uninhabitable.

On April 2, 2010, the CPSC released an Interim Remediation Guidance which “found a strong association between the presence of problem drywall and corrosion of metal in homes.” The interim guidance report focused on the “replacement of problem drywall and building components for which drywall-induced corrosion might cause a safety problem.” Yet the interim guidance report indicates that the April 2nd report was provided early, before the completion of “all ongoing scientific studies” on the effects of Chinese drywall. The early release of the guidance was in recognition that many homeowners with tainted Chinese drywall wanted to begin repairing their homes as soon as possible.

While the CPSC’s early release of an Interim Remediation Guidance was helpful, many homeowners with tainted Chinese drywall are still waiting for all of the scientific studies to be completed and the issuance of the final remediation guidance before they begin making repairs to their homes. Indeed, homeowners are rightfully concerned that the final remediation guidance

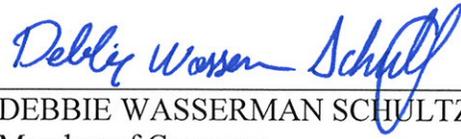
may be substantially different from the Interim Remediation Guidance and require the replacement of additional structural elements of a home when removing the tainted Chinese drywall. We therefore urge the CPSC to complete all scientific studies and release the final remediation guidance for homeowners with tainted Chinese drywall in an expedited manner so that homeowners can complete the urgently needed repairs to their homes.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and we look forward to a response. We also look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Sincerely,



THEODORE E. DEUTCH
Member of Congress



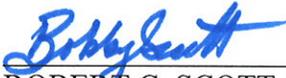
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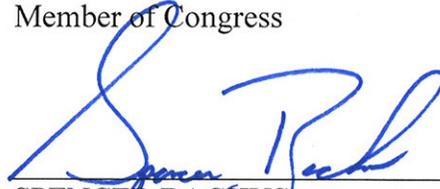
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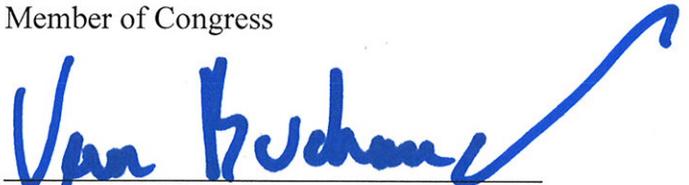
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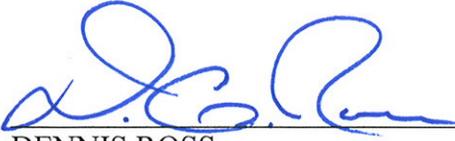


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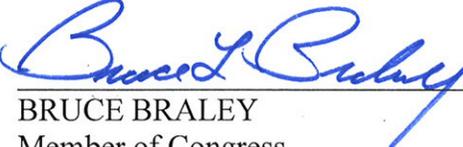

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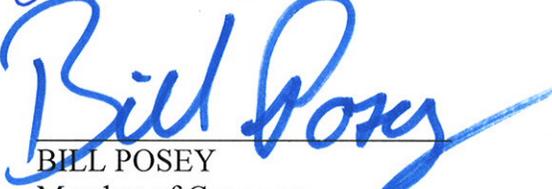

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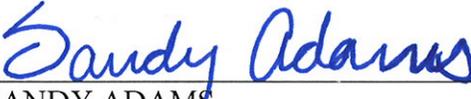

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