



**Ontario  
Association  
of  
Fire Chiefs**

**2009-2010**

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November 3, 2009

Senator Art Eggleton  
Chair, Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology  
Senate of Canada  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Senator Eggleton:

I am writing you in my capacity as President of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs and also as the Director representing Ontario on the Board of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC).

The mandate of my and all other Fire Departments in Ontario and the rest of Canada is to protect the lives and property of our citizens.

Approximately 25 per cent of Fire Department responses are to fires, many of which were caused by unsafe consumer products, such as electrical appliances, extension cords, light bulbs and candles. A significant percentage of the remaining responses for every Fire Department also have important consumer product safety implications. People may be severely injured or even killed through no fault of their own by mistakenly, but understandably, trusting in the safety of consumer products they are using. That is why CAFC has so actively supported Bill C-6, which would enact the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act. A copy of CAFC's submission on this subject to the House Standing Committee on Health earlier this year is attached.

In the interests of the safety of the residents of Ontario and Canadians everywhere, I urge you to strongly support adoption of an un-amended Bill C-6 by your Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology. To vote against the Bill would place the citizens of Ontario at unnecessary risk from dangerous consumer products.

CAFC has carefully reviewed the terms of Bill C-6. Arguments that have been made to your Committee suggesting that mandatory reporting requirements are overly harsh; that confidential business information will be threatened; or even that Bill C-6 is not constitutional are without merit in my opinion and that of my Fire Chief colleagues across Canada. We are counting on your support.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Boyes".

Oakville Fire Chief Richard Boyes

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