

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Cosponsor the bipartisan H.R. 3255 to help OSHA bring federal fire safety standards into the 21st Century.

In 1969 Warren Burger was confirmed as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; "The Ballad Of John & Yoko" by The Beatles hit #1 in UK; and "Hee Haw" with Roy Clark & Buck Owens premiered on CBS TV.

A lot of things have changed since 1969, but not OSHA's rules regulating fire safety standards. But unlike the bell bottoms that are hanging harmlessly in your closet, these outdated regulations are costing American jobs. Small companies are faced with the unfair choice between incurring the high cost of complying with the outdated OSHA regulations and using the new standards that reflect the most modern methods for reducing fire risks in plastic resin spraying operations, but carry the risk of costly penalties.

When the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) originally developed the sprayed liquids standard, spray paint was the primary fire hazard. Since that time, new sprayed materials and technologies have developed that share very little of the same characteristics or hazards of spray paint. Yet users of these new technologies must still comply with the 1969 standard. The processes affected by this standard are the plastic resin operations used in many industrial operations. This includes the composite industry, which uses fiberglass reinforced plastics to make motor homes, recreational boats, and residential tub/showers, sinks, and vanities.

While OSHA admits that a very complicated and out dated rule remains on their books, they have so far refused to revise this rule or even to commit to a timeline for future action. What makes this situation even more upsetting is the fact that OSHA has the ability to act quickly to update this rule. NFPA, the authority on fire safety that drafted the 1969 standard, issued updated safety standards in 1995 to reflect the true hazards in composites manufacturing, after several years of study. Yet OSHA continues to drag their feet while American businesses and their employees suffer under the weight of obsolete regulations.

Please help us modernize these OSHA regulations that are no longer working to protect worker safety and waste the resources of our businesses. Cosponsor the bipartisan **H.R. 3255- The Fire Protection Improvement and Correction Act of 2005.**

H.R. 3255 simply requires OSHA to update its rules to reflect the requirements of the current NFPA standards. This change is necessary to keep and generate more good paying jobs in the US, while providing safe and healthy workplaces.

****The National Marine Manufacturers Association, the American Composites Manufacturers Association, and the National Association of Manufacturers all support H.R. 3255.****

Sincerely,



Candice Miller
Member of Congress



Mark Souder
Member of Congress