

From: Rick Woldenberg

Sent: Monday, December 15, 2008 13:48

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Subject: More Impairment of Science Education - Courtesy of the CPSIA!

Judy and Christian,

I thought you would be interested to know that I was informed today that one of the leading U.S. suppliers of science educational materials has suspended sales of all light bulbs (principally microscope light bulbs) owing to the little dot of solder found on the bottom. Apparently this little dot of solder makes those bulbs just too dangerous to sell into schools, despite the fact that no microscope bulb has ever harmed anyone from exposure to its little dot of solder. To my knowledge, there is no available substitute on the market for this ten cent item. This is EXACTLY what I predicted in my CPSC presentation on November 6 (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlMh7MJiodY>). As my email from Friday indicated, it is no longer economic to sell telescopes either. Can someone explain to me what Congress had in mind with this law? Has Congress decided to delegate scientific pursuits to the Germans, Japanese or Chinese so Americans can be "safer"? Or is Congress hoping we will all move back into caves to adopt a "safer" lifestyle?

I still have kids in school. Your law makes illegal or uneconomic those implements they need for an adequate education. I can't escape the reach of the CPSIA by sending my children to private school - the ridiculous strictures of the CPSIA follows them everywhere in this country. Will I have to send them to boarding school in another country so they can look through a microscope or a telescope? What's Congress' master plan?

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