To require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DE LAURO, Mr. DUNN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MAST, Ms. MATSU, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. Swalwell of California, and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Portable Fuel Container Safety Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS TO PROTECT AGAINST PORTABLE FUEL CONTAINER EXPLOSIONS NEAR OPEN FLAMES OR OTHER IGNITION SOURCES.

(a) Rule on Safety Performance Standards Required.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”) shall promulgate a final rule to require flame mitigation devices in portable fuel containers that impede the propagation of flame into the container, except as provided in subsection (c).

(b) Rulemaking; Consumer Product Safety Standard.—A rule under subsection (a)—

(1) shall be promulgated in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and


(c) Exception.—

(1) Voluntary Standard.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Commission determines that—
(A) there is a voluntary standard for flame mitigation devices in portable fuel containers that impedes the propagation of flame into the container, or a combination of more than one voluntary standard which taken together serve such purpose for the full scope of this Act;

(B) the voluntary standard or combination of voluntary standards described in subparagraph (A) is or will be in effect not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(C) the voluntary standard or combination of voluntary standards described in subparagraph (A) is developed by ASTM International or such other standard development organization that the Commission determines to have met the intent of this Act.

(2) Determination Required to be Published in the Federal Register.—Any determination made by the Commission under this subsection shall be published in the Federal Register.

(d) Treatment of Voluntary Standard for Purpose of Enforcement.—If the Commission determines that a voluntary standard meets the conditions described in subsection (c), the requirements of such vol-
untary standard shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058) beginning on the date which is the later of—

(1) 180 days after publication of the Commission’s determination under subsection (c); or

(2) the effective date contained in the voluntary standard.

(e) REVISION OF VOLUNTARY STANDARD.—

(1) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—If the requirements of a voluntary standard that meet the conditions of subsection (c) are subsequently revised, the organization that revised the standard shall notify the Commission after the final approval of the revision.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF REVISION.—Not later than 180 days after the Commission is notified of a revised voluntary standard described in paragraph (1) (or such later date as the Commission determines appropriate), such revised voluntary standard shall become enforceable as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058), in place of the prior version, unless within 90 days after receiving the notice the Commission determines
that the revised voluntary standard does not meet
the requirements described in subsection (e).

(f) FUTURE RULEMAKING.—The Commission, at any
time after publication of the consumer product safety rule
required by subsection (a), a voluntary standard is treated
as a consumer product safety rule under subsection (d),
or a revision is enforceable as a consumer product safety
rule under subsection (e) may initiate a rulemaking in ac-
cordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code,
to modify the requirements or to include any additional
 provision that the Commission determines is reasonably
necessary to protect the public against flame jetting from
a portable fuel container. Any rule promulgated under this
subsection shall be treated as a consumer product safety
rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Prod-

(g) ACTION REQUIRED.—

(1) EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.—Not later than 1
year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
Commission shall undertake a campaign to educate
consumers about the dangers associated with using
or storing portable fuel containers for flammable liq-
uids near an open flame or any other source of igni-
(2) SUMMARY OF ACTIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a summary of actions taken by the Commission in such campaign.

(h) PORTABLE FUEL CONTAINER DEFINED.—In this section, the term “portable fuel container” means any container or vessel (including any spout, cap, and other closure mechanism or component of such container or vessel or any retrofit or aftermarket spout or component intended or reasonably anticipated to be for use with such container)—

(1) intended for flammable liquid fuels with a flash point less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit, including gasoline, kerosene, diesel, ethanol, methanol, denatured alcohol, or biofuels;

(2) that is a consumer product with a capacity of 5 gallons or less; and

(3) that the manufacturer knows or reasonably should know is used by consumers for receiving, transporting, storing, and dispensing flammable liquid fuels.

(i) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be interpreted to conflict with the Children’s Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (Public Law 110–278; 122 Stat. 2602).
SEC. 3. CHILDREN'S GASOLINE BURN PREVENTION ACT.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 2(c) of the Children’s Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 2056 note; Public Law 110–278) is amended by inserting after “for use by consumers” the following: “and any receptacle for gasoline, kerosene, or diesel fuel, including any spout, cap, and other closure mechanism and component of such receptacle or any retrofit or aftermarket spout or component intended or reasonably anticipated to be for use with such receptacle, produced or distributed for sale to or use by consumers for transport of, or refueling of internal combustion engines with, gasoline, kerosene, or diesel fuel”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect 6 months after the date of enactment of this section.