

Noah [REDACTED]

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Office of the Secretary
Consumer Product Safety Commission
4330 East-West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

CC: Senator John Thune, Senator Mike Rounds, and Representative Dusty Johnson

I oppose the CPSC proposed action to restrict portable generators. Portable generators are life saving devices. South Dakota experiences brutally cold winters and severe winter storms. Short power interruptions can lead to thousands of dollars of damage related to frozen pipes. Many Americans nationwide rely on electricity for medical devices. Portable generators provide a low cost method to generate electricity in times of need. Alternatives like solar generators are much more expensive than traditional generators and do not function when the sky is not clear like during blizzards. Modern generators include carbon monoxide interlocks that dramatically reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The CPSC proposed action will make Americans more susceptible to carbon monoxide poisoning as it may cause some consumers to forgo generators and use very dangerous camping stoves and heaters indoors. Growing up in South Dakota I know of countless houses that burned down due to people using candles and camping stoves indoors. The CPSCs mission is to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury. Any action that increases the cost of generators subjects consumers to an unreasonable risk of injury. Generators are emergency preparedness supplies, and any action to increase their cost will make Americans less prepared.

Sincerely,
Noah [REDACTED]