CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CPSC -2010-0055]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads and Standard for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattress Sets

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (Commission or CPSC) announces that the Commission has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for extension of approval of a collection of information associated with the Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads, and the Standard for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattress Sets, approved previously under OMB Control No. 3041-0014. On March 13, 2020, the CPSC published a notice in the Federal Register to announce the agency's intention to seek extension of approval of the collection of information. The Commission received no comments. Therefore, by publication of this notice, the Commission announces that CPSC has submitted to the OMB a request for extension of approval of that collection of information, without change.

DATES: Written comments on this request for extension of approval of information collection requirements should be submitted by [insert date that is 30 days from publication of this notice in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: Submit comments about this request by email: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov or fax: 202-395-6881. Comments by mail should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the CPSC, Office
of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503. In addition, written comments that are sent to OMB also should be submitted electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, under Docket No. CPSC-2010-0055.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Gillham, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; (301) 504-7791, or by e-mail to: cgillham@cpsc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Approximately 344 establishments produce mattresses. The Commission promulgated the Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads, 16 CFR part 1632 (part 1632 standard), under section 4 of the Flammable Fabrics Act (FFA), 15 U.S.C. 1193, to reduce unreasonable risks of burn injuries and deaths from fires associated with mattresses and mattress pads. The part 1632 standard prescribes requirements to test whether a mattress or mattress pad will resist ignition from a smoldering cigarette. The part 1632 standard also requires manufacturers to perform prototype tests of each combination of materials and construction methods used to produce mattresses or mattress pads and to obtain acceptable results from such testing. Manufacturers and importers must maintain the records and test results specified under the standard.

In addition, the Commission promulgated the Standard for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattress Sets, 16 CFR part 1633 (part 1633 standard), under section 4 of the FFA to reduce deaths and injuries related to mattress fires, particularly those ignited by open-flame sources, such as lighters, candles, and matches. The part 1633 standard requires manufacturers to maintain certain records to document compliance with the standard, including maintaining
records concerning prototype testing, pooling, and confirmation testing, and quality assurance procedures and any associated testing. The required records must be maintained for as long as mattress sets based on the prototype are in production and must be retained for 3 years thereafter. Although some larger manufacturers may produce mattresses based on more than 100 prototypes, most mattress manufacturers base their complying production on 15 to 20 prototypes. OMB previously approved the collection of information for 16 CFR parts 1632 and 1633, under control number 3041-0014, with an expiration date of June 30, 2020. The information collection requirements under the part 1632 standard are separate from the testing and recordkeeping requirements under the part 1633 standard.

On March 13, 2020, the CPSC published a notice in the Federal Register (85 FR 14655), to announce the agency’s intention to seek extension of approval of the collection of information. The Commission received no comments. Therefore, by publication of this notice, the Commission announces that CPSC has submitted to the OMB a request for extension of approval of that collection of information, without change.

B. Burden Hours

16 CFR 1632: Staff estimates that there are 344 respondents. It is estimated that each respondent will spend 26 hours for testing and record keeping annually for a total of 8,944 hours (344 establishments x 26 hours = 8,944). The hourly compensation for the time required for record keeping is $70.17 (for management, professional, and related occupations in goods-producing industries, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September, 2019). The annualized cost to respondents would be approximately $627,600 (8,944 hours x $70.17).

16 CFR 1633: The standard requires detailed documentation of prototype identification and testing records, model and prototype specifications, inputs used, name and location of
suppliers, and confirmation of test records, if establishments choose to pool a prototype. This documentation is in addition to documentation already conducted by mattress manufacturers in their efforts to meet 16 CFR part 1632. Staff estimates that there are 344 respondents. Based on staff estimates, the recordkeeping requirements are expected to require about 4 hours and 44 minutes per establishment, per qualified prototype. Although some larger manufacturers reportedly are producing mattresses based on more than 100 prototypes, most mattress manufacturers probably base their complying production on 15 to 20 prototypes, according to an industry representative contacted by staff. Assuming that establishments qualify their production with an average of 20 different qualified prototypes, recordkeeping time is about 94.6 hours (4.73 hours x 20 prototypes) per establishment, per year. (Note that pooling among establishments or using a prototype qualification for longer than 1 year will reduce this estimate). This translates to an estimated annual recordkeeping time cost to all mattress producers of 32,542 hours (94.6 hours x 344 establishments). The hourly compensation for the time required for record keeping is $70.17 (for management, professional, and related occupations in goods-producing industries, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September, 2019). The annual total estimated costs for recordkeeping are approximately $2,283,500 (32,542 hours x $70.17).

The total estimated annual cost to the 344 establishments for the burden hours associated with both 16 CFR part 1632 and 16 CFR part 1633 is approximately $2.8 million.

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Alberta E. Mills, Secretary,

[FR Doc. 2020-11225 Filed: 5/22/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 5/26/2020]