

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8928

To direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to require portable generators to meet certain standards relating to carbon monoxide, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2020

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to require portable generators to meet certain standards relating to carbon monoxide, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Portable Generator
5 Safety Standard To Avoid Needless Deaths And Reduce
6 Disabilities Act” or the “Portable Generator Safety
7 STANDARD Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD FOR**
2 **PORTABLE GENERATORS.**

3 (a) FINAL STANDARD FOR PORTABLE GENERA-
4 TORS.—

5 (1) FINAL STANDARD.—Not later than 1 year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Con-
7 sumer Product Safety Commission shall promulgate,
8 in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United
9 States Code, a final consumer product safety stand-
10 ard for portable generators to protect consumers
11 from death or injury relating to the use of such gen-
12 erators.

13 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The final standard pro-
14 mulgated under paragraph (1) shall incorporate re-
15 quirements that are substantially the same as, or
16 more stringent than, each of the following:

17 (A) The requirements of the American Na-
18 tional Standard for Carbon Monoxide Emission
19 Rate of Portable Generators (ANSI/UL 2201),
20 or any related successor standard, that relate to
21 carbon monoxide concentration limits.

22 (B) The requirements of the American Na-
23 tional Standard for Safety and Performance of
24 Portable Generators (ANSI/PGMA G300–
25 2018), or any related successor standard, ex-

cept where such requirements conflict with any other requirement under this paragraph.

(C) A requirement that a portable generator shall include clear and conspicuous labeling marking the direction of exhaust.

(D) A requirement that the cord of a portable generator may not be shorter than 30 feet in length.

(E) A requirement that the weighted carbon monoxide emission rate of a portable generator may not exceed—

(i) for a portable generator powered by a handheld or Class I spark-ignition engine, a rate of 75 grams per hour;

(ii) for a portable generator powered by a Class II spark-ignition engine with one cylinder, a rate of 150 grams per hour; and

(iii) for a portable generator powered by a Class II spark-ignition engine with two cylinders, a rate of 300 grams per hour.

(F) A requirement relating to the shutoff capability of a portable generator in an elevated carbon monoxide environment.

1 (G) Other shutoff requirements and test
2 specifications the Commission determines nec-
3 essary to protect consumers from the risk of in-
4 jury relating to the use of portable generators.

5 (3) COMPLIANCE DATES.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
7 subparagraph (B), the Commission shall include
8 in the final standard promulgated under para-
9 graph (1) a compliance date that is not later
10 than 1 year after the date of such promulga-
11 tion, by which portable generators shall comply
12 with the final standard.

13 (B) HANDHELD AND CLASS I ENGINES.—
14 With respect to portable generators powered by
15 handheld or Class I spark-ignition engines, the
16 Commission may include a separate compliance
17 date that is not later than 18 months after the
18 date of the promulgation of the final standard.

19 (4) REVIEW AND REVISION OF STANDARD.—Be-
20 ginning 1 year after the date of the promulgation of
21 the final standard under paragraph (1) and not less
22 frequently than every 5 years thereafter, the Com-
23 mission shall review and revise such standard to en-
24 sure the highest level of safety feasible with respect
25 to portable generators.

1 (5) TREATMENT OF STANDARD.—The final
2 standard promulgated under paragraph (1), includ-
3 ing any revision of such standard made pursuant to
4 paragraph (4), shall be treated as a consumer prod-
5 uct safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the
6 Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

7 (b) INTERIM STANDARD FOR PORTABLE GENERA-
8 TORS.—

9 (1) INTERIM STANDARD.—Beginning on the
10 date that is 6 months after the date of the enact-
11 ment of this Act and ending on the date that the
12 final standard promulgated under subsection (a)(1)
13 goes into effect, it shall be unlawful for a person to
14 import into or distribute in commerce in the United
15 States a portable generator, unless—

16 (A) the portable generator complies with
17 the requirements of ANSI/UL 2201 or ANSI/
18 PGMA G300–2018; and

19 (B) the engine of such generator shuts off
20 before the carbon monoxide concentration ex-
21 ceeds 600 parts per million by volume (ppm) or
22 a 10-minute rolling average of 275 ppm.

23 (2) VIOLATION.—Failure to comply with para-
24 graph (1) shall be treated as a violation of section

- 1 19 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C.
- 2 2068).

