



Letter Writing Suggestions

Canada:

Prime Minister Stephen Harper
80 Wellington St.
Ottawa
K1A 0A2

United States:

Your U.S. Senators

Here are some examples of language to use in your letter. Use them as guidelines. Make your letter personal.

Draw on personal experiences and fears:

- ❖ My son/daughter/granddaughter/niece/nephew/friend's child has a toy box filled with (pick a toy such as Thomas the Tank Engine). It scares me to death to know he/she has played with/sucked on/teethed on toxic toys.
- ❖ I am outraged that (name specific toy or product), which was supposed to provide my child with joy, has instead endangered his/her life.

Note: See the recall list in your packets for information on toys recalled in the U.S. and Canada.

Mention the threat lead poses to health:

- ❖ Experts on human health have warned repeatedly about the damage lead does to bodies – particularly little bodies.
- ❖ Lead accumulates so there is no safe level as manufacturers and some government regulatory agencies suggest – even a little bit hurts.

Draw the connection to trade:

- ❖ I'm angry that CEOs and some government officials are trying to avoid the real problem, which is a broken trade system that allows dangerous imports into our homes. Corporate and political spin is not a solution.
- ❖ I have no faith in foreign manufacturers or the profit-chasing North American companies that hire them. They promise they will keep us safe. A toy box full of toxic toys tells me better.

Use your consumer buying and voting power:

- ❖ A cheap price is not worth putting my family at risk. I don't want to buy poisoned products just so big corporations can make more money.
- ❖ I am a mother/grandmother/etc. and I am a voter. No issue is more important to me than keeping my loved ones safe.
- ❖ I am asking you to please do something to fix the broken trade and regulatory policies which are allowing dangerous toys and other products into our homes.