Statement

For Immediate Release

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CPSC VOTE TO RESTRICT DINP IN TOYS AND CHILDCARE ARTICLES IGNORES DECADES OF ESTABLISHED SCIENCE

DINP can continue to safely be used in many consumer and commercial products

WASHINGTON (October 18, 2017) – The High Phthalates Panel of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) released the following statement today in response to the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s (CPSC) vote on the phthalates final rule, which restricts the phthalate DINP in toys and childcare articles. The vote on the final rule is based on the CPSC Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel (CHAP) on Phthalates report that was released in July 2014.

“ACC supports CPSC’s decision to lift the interim restrictions on two phthalates - DIDP and DnOP. However, CPSC’s vote to restrict the use of DINP in toys and childcare articles is the culmination of a process that has consistently ignored the established science and fabricated rationales for the panel to defend their predetermined outcomes. From the beginning of this rulemaking process, ACC has questioned the integrity of the agency’s internal scientific reviews as well as the overall review process, by which those decisions were developed.

“ACC believes the CPSC decision to restrict DINP in toys and childcare articles contrasts with the decades of established science. This vote to ban DINP is arbitrary and capricious and proves CPSC isn’t interested in acting based on valid scientific standards. If the commissioners were, they would have relied on scientifically reasonable statistics when assessing the exposure data, which demonstrate that the cumulative risk of exposure to these phthalates is actually well below any level of concern – even for sensitive populations.

“DINP is one of the most thoroughly studied compounds in the world. It has been reviewed by numerous international scientific panels for decades, and the conclusions are essentially the same each time: DINP, as currently used in commercial and consumer products, does not pose a risk to human health at typical exposure levels.

“This CPSC action should not be interpreted to limit DINP’s safe use in the myriad of other products in the automotive, construction, flooring and cable and wiring industries where DINP provides important performance characteristics, making materials flexible, durable and resilient.”

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®; common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues; and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a $768 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is among the largest exporters in the nation, accounting for fourteen percent of all U.S. goods exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.