

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
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Testimony Supporting House Bill No.6508

AN ACT AMENDING REGULATIONS FOR PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPAS

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 6508, An Act Amending Regulations for Portable Electric Spas.

Public Act 07-242 established energy efficiency standards for a number of products. The referenced standard for several of those products is section 1605.3 of the January 2006 California Code of Regulations, Title 20. The Office of Policy and Management established regulations identical to those developed by California, becoming effective on 6/3/08. Subsequently, it has been brought to our attention that there was a problem with the California testing procedure spelled out in their, and now by extension our, regulations.

California established standards for portable electric spas in January 2006. Soon after, it became clear that many portable electric spa manufacturers were having difficulty complying with the test methods established for that product, with a large majority of portable electric spas being rejected for sale in that state. New testing of spas resulted in the development of a revised testing standard that more realistically reflected the energy usage of the units. The change in test method resulted in fewer "rejected" spas. California has accepted the refinements to the test procedure and is currently amending its regulations to incorporate these changes.

Because PA 07-242 references the older California Code of Regulations, we cannot revise our test method to match that of California without first revising the language in the statute to allow OPM that flexibility. This proposed language is intended to allow us to update our regulation to the current version of California regulation.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony. I respectfully request the Committee support this bill and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.