

Commission shall issue a final regulation providing its interpretation of the penalty factors described in section 20(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2069(b)), section 5(c)(3) of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (15 U.S.C. 1264(c)(3)), and section 5(e)(2) of the Flammable Fabrics Act (15 U.S.C. 1194(e)(2)), as amended by subsection (a)."

### § 2070. Criminal penalties

(a) Violation of section 2068 of this title is punishable by—

- (1) imprisonment for not more than 5 years for a knowing and willful violation of that section;
- (2) a fine determined under section 3571 of title 18; or
- (3) both.

(b) Any individual director, officer, or agent of a corporation who knowingly and willfully authorizes, orders, or performs any of the acts or practices constituting in whole or in part a violation of section 2068 of this title shall be subject to penalties under this section without regard to any penalties to which that corporation may be subject under subsection (a) of this section.

(c)(1) In addition to the penalties provided by subsection (a), the penalty for a criminal violation of this chapter or any other Act enforced by the Commission may include the forfeiture of assets associated with the violation.

(2) In this subsection, the term "criminal violation" means a violation of this chapter or any other Act enforced by the Commission for which the violator is sentenced to pay a fine, be imprisoned, or both.

(Pub. L. 92-573, §21, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1225; Pub. L. 110-314, title II, §217(c)(1), (2), (d), Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3060.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-314, §217(c)(1), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: "Any person who knowingly and willfully violates section 2068 of this title after having received notice of noncompliance from the Commission shall be fined not more than \$50,000 or be imprisoned not more than one year, or both."

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-314, §217(c)(2), struck out ", and who has knowledge of notice of noncompliance received by the corporation from the Commission," after "section 2068 of this title".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-314, §217(d), added subsec. (c).

### § 2071. Injunctive enforcement and seizure

#### (a) Jurisdiction

The United States district courts shall have jurisdiction to take the following action:

- (1) Restrain any violation of section 2068 of this title.
- (2) Restrain any person from manufacturing for sale, offering for sale, distributing in commerce, or importing into the United States a product in violation of an order in effect under section 2064(d) of this title.
- (3) Restrain any person from distributing in commerce a product which does not comply with a consumer product safety rule.

Such actions may be brought by the Commission (without regard to section 2076(b)(7)(A) of this title) or by the Attorney General in any

United States district court for a district wherein any act, omission, or transaction constituting the violation occurred, or in such court for the district wherein the defendant is found or transacts business. In any action under this section process may be served on a defendant in any other district in which the defendant resides or may be found.

#### (b) Products liable to proceeding

Any consumer product—

- (1) which fails to conform with an applicable consumer product safety rule, or
- (2) the manufacture for sale, offering for sale, distribution in commerce, or the importation into the United States of which has been prohibited by an order in effect under section 2064(d) of this title,

when introduced into or while in commerce or while held for sale after shipment in commerce shall be liable to be proceeded against on libel of information and condemned in any district court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which such consumer product is found. Proceedings in cases instituted under the authority of this subsection shall conform as nearly as possible to proceedings in rem in admiralty. Whenever such proceedings involving substantially similar consumer products are pending in courts of two or more judicial districts they shall be consolidated for trial by order of any such court upon application reasonably made by any party in interest upon notice to all other parties in interest.

(Pub. L. 92-573, §22, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1225; Pub. L. 94-284, §§11(b), 12(c), May 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 507, 508.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1976—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94-284, §§11(b), 12(c)(1), designated existing provision as par. (1) and (3), added par. (2), and in provision following par. (3) substituted "(without regard to section 2076(b)(7)(A) of this title)" for "(with the concurrence of the Attorney General)".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94-284, §12(c)(2), amended subsec. (b) generally, inserting provision designated as par. (2) which included within consumer products liable to proceedings, a product of which the manufacture for sale, offering for sale, distribution in commerce, or importation into the United States has been prohibited.

### § 2072. Suits for damages

#### (a) Persons injured; costs; amount in controversy

Any person who shall sustain injury by reason of any knowing (including willful) violation of a consumer product safety rule, or any other rule or order issued by the Commission may sue any person who knowingly (including willfully) violated any such rule or order in any district court of the United States in the district in which the defendant resides or is found or has an agent, shall recover damages sustained and may, if the court determines it to be in the interest of justice, recover the costs of suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees (determined in accordance with section 2060(f) of this title) and reasonable expert witnesses' fees: *Provided*, That the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$10,000, exclusive of interest and cost, unless such action is brought against the United States, any agency thereof, or any officer or employee thereof in his official capacity.