SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION:
QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD

NOMINATIONS HEARING
JUNE 16, 2020

Written Questions Submitted to Nancy Beck, Nominee to be Commissioner and Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission

Submitted by the Hon. Jerry Moran

Question. As the sponsor of the CPSC Chief Information Officer Parity Act and similar legislation, I believe in empowering our agency CIOs to be heard in the budgetary decisions of their respected agencies. Will you commit to this committee that you will appropriately empower your CIO to partake in critical budgetary decisions such as replacing legacy IT systems?

Response: Yes.

Submitted by the Hon. Cory Gardner

Question. PFAS is a serious issue in Colorado for communities like Colorado Springs where water has been contaminated through years of PFAS exposure. I have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address the risks posed by these harmful chemicals including introducing legislation to limit PFAS use, supporting efforts to provide resources for PFAS cleanup, and advocating for additional research dollars toward studying harmful effects of PFAS chemicals.

Do you believe that PFAS chemicals, including PFOA and PFOS, pose any hazardous risks to human health? Do you believe the federal government has an important role to play in protecting the public from exposure to harmful chemicals? If confirmed, how do you intend to use the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s authorities in law to keep my Colorado constituents safe from hazardous products?

Response: PFAS chemicals pose hazardous risks to human health, and I do strongly believe that the federal government has a very important role to play in protecting the public from harmful exposures.

I have spent my career committed to promoting public safety through policies supported by objective and transparent scientific analysis. If confirmed to serve on the Commission, I would make it a priority to ensure that CPSC takes appropriate and timely action to protect the public from risks, including from PFAS. Specifically, I would ask the Commission to inventory known and suspected consumer products containing PFAS. I would then work collaboratively with the CPSC staff experts and other Commissioners to make sure the Commission is guided by the scientific information, the data, and our legal obligations to make timely decisions to ensure that robust protections are put in place to protect the public, including our most vulnerable populations.