
¹ An imitation political item is “an item which purports to be, but in fact is not, an original political item, or which is a reproduction, copy, or counterfeit of an original political item.” 15 U.S.C. 2106(2). The Act defines original political items as being any political button, poster, literature, sticker or any advertisement produced for use in any political cause. . . section 2106(1).

² An imitation numismatic item is “an item which purports to be, but in fact is not, an original numismatic item or which is a reproduction, copy, or counterfeit of an original numismatic item.” 15 U.S.C. 2106(4). The Act defines original numismatic items to include coins, tokens, paper money, and commemorative medals which have been part of a coinage or issue used in exchange or used to commemorate a person or event. . . section 2106(3).

³ 40 FR 5459 (Feb. 6, 1975).

⁴ Incusable items are those that can be impressed with a stamp.

⁵ Before this amendment, if a coin were too small to comply with the minimum letter size requirements, the manufacturer or importer had to request a variance from those requirements from the Commission. Because imitation miniature coins were becoming more common, the Commission determined that it was in the public interest to allow the word “copy” to appear on miniature imitation coins in sizes 168 125a3 s5feit oper .

III. Request for Comment

The Commission solicits comment on the following specific questions related to the Rules:

(1) Is there a continuing need for the Rules as currently promulgated? Why or why not?

(2) What benefits have the Rules provided to consumers? What evidence supports the asserted benefits?

(3) What modifications, if any, should the Commission make to the Rules to increase their benefits to consumers?

(a) What evidence supports your proposed modifications?

(b) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for consumers?

(c) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for businesses, particularly small businesses?

(4) What impact have the Rules had on the flow of truthful information to consumers and on the flow of deceptive information to consumers?

(5) What significant costs, if any, have the Rules imposed on consumers? What evidence supports the asserted costs?

(6) What modifications, if any, should be made to the Rules to reduce any costs imposed on consumers?

(a) What evidence supports your proposed modifications?

(b) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for consumers?

(c) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for businesses, particularly small businesses?

(7) What benefits, if any, have the Rules provided to businesses, and in particular to small businesses? What evidence supports the asserted benefits?

(8) What modifications, if any, should be made to the Rules to increase their benefits to businesses, and particularly to small businesses?

(a) What evidence supports your proposed modifications?

(b) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for consumers?

(c) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for businesses?

(9) What significant costs, if any, including costs of compliance, have the Rules imposed on businesses, particularly small businesses? What evidence supports the asserted costs?

(10) What modifications, if any, should be made to the Rules to reduce the costs imposed on businesses, and particularly on small businesses?

(a) What evidence supports your proposed modifications?

(b) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for consumers?

(c) How would these modifications affect the costs and benefits of the Rules for businesses?

(11) What evidence is available concerning the degree of industry compliance with the Rules? Does this evidence indicate that the Rules should be modified? If so, why, and how? If not, why not?

(12) Are any of the Rules' requirements no longer needed? If so, explain. Please provide supporting evidence.

(13) What potentially unfair or deceptive practices concerning imitation political items and imitation numismatic items, if any, are not covered by the Rules?

(a) What evidence demonstrates the existence of such practices?

(b) With reference to such practices, should the Rules be modified? If so, of the Rules

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covered by all businesses?

(0at evidence supports your proposed modifications?

If you file your comment on paper, write "Hobby Protection Rules Review" on your comment and on the envelope, and mail your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite CC-5610 (Annex B), Washington, DC 20580, or deliver your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW., 5th Floor, Suite 5610 (Annex B), Washington, DC 20024.

Visit the Commission Web site at <http://www.ftc.gov> to read this Notice and the news release describing it. The FTC Act and other laws that the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives on or before September 22, 2014. You can find more information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, in the Commission's privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy>.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

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