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3 **2017.03**                    **Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of**  
4                                    **the *Excise Tax Act* for Child Safety Products**

5 **Whereas,**                    the cost of child safety products listed in the *Canada Consumer Product*  
6                                    *Safety Act* is subject to the goods and services tax provisions of the *Excise*  
7                                    *Tax Act*; and

8 **Whereas,**                    the federal government has the authority to identify certain goods and  
9                                    services as being zero-rated for the goods and services tax; therefore, be it

10 **Resolved,**                    that national council of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada in 97<sup>th</sup>  
11                                    annual national convention assembled urge the federal government to  
12                                    grant zero-rated status for regulated child safety products under the goods  
13                                    and services tax provisions of the *Excise Tax Act*.  
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15 **BRIEF:**                    **Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provision of the**  
16                                    ***Excise Tax Act for Child Safety Products***

17 The *Canada Consumer Products Safety Act* (CCPSA) came into effect in June 2011 (Health  
18 Canada, 2016). The Act is administered by Health Canada. The CCPSA helps protect consumers  
19 from unsafe products. The law applies to a variety of consumer products including child safety  
20 products. The regulated child safety products include baby gates, vehicle restraint systems, cribs,  
21 cradles, bassinets, playpens and strollers to name a few (Justice Laws Website, Government of  
22 Canada, 2017). At present, these regulated child safety products incur a goods and services tax  
23 (GST) of five percent. It should be zero-rated.

24 At present, certain goods and services are zero-rated and therefore exempt from GST such as  
25 basic groceries, drugs and medical devices.

26 In 1991, the federal government introduced the GST. The GST is a federal tax that adds five  
27 percent to the cost of products or services made available or consumed in Canada. Five provinces  
28 (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Prince Edward Island)  
29 have combined their provincial tax with the federal GST. This combined tax is called the  
30 harmonized sales tax (HST) (Canada Revenue Agency, 2016).

31 The provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island provide a rebate for the  
32 provincial portion of the HST payable on qualifying children's goods sold, imported, or brought  
33 into these provinces. The Canada Revenue Agency administers the rebate on behalf of these  
34 provinces (CRA, 2014, Schedule (2) of the Act).

35 The federal government can show its support for the safety of our children by zero-rating the  
36 GST on child safety items as regulated by the CCPSA. This would help ease the financial burden  
37 on families, as well as ensure that child safety is not compromised.

38 **Works Cited**

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45 *Act*, <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-1.68/index.html>
- 46 4. Health Canada, Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA), (2016) [http://www.hc-](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/ccpsa-lcspc/index-end.php)  
47 [sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/ccpsa-lcspc/index-end.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/ccpsa-lcspc/index-end.php)
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50 [consumer-product-safety-act.guide.html#](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/reports-publications/industry-professionals/canada-consumer-product-safety-act.guide.html#)

51 **Action Plan**

- 52 1. Write letters to the federal government requesting the removal of the federal portion  
53 of tax from child safety products.
- 54 2. Invite a guest speaker to educate members on the requirements for the child safety  
55 Products.
- 56 3. Hold a fundraiser for a local young mothers group to purchase safety products for  
57 those in need.
- 58 4. Study the list of products in the *Canada Safety Act* and ascertain if any other products  
59 Should be listed as well.
- 60 5. Educate the public on the provincial rebate for child safety products.
- 61 6. Continue to monitor this issue.