

Informal Comparison Between Various U.S. Drawstring Standards
 Prepared by American Apparel & Footwear Association. www.apparelandfootwear.org

	ASTM Standard (F 1816-97) ¹	Wisconsin Law (ATCP 139) ²	New York (A10866) (Amendment to A01865 from 2002).
How implemented	Voluntary national standard Already implemented.	State regulation. Effective Date: January 1, 2000.	State law. Effective upon enactment.
Neck area prohibitions	No drawstrings in the hood and neck area of certain children’s clothing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only children’s upper outerwear. • Sizes 2t to 12. 	No drawstrings in the hood and neck area of all children’s clothing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children’s clothing. • Sizes 0 to 16. 	No drawstrings in the hood and neck opening of certain children’s clothing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children’s clothing. • Sizes 0 to 12.
Waist/bottom prohibitions	Drawstrings at waist and bottom of certain children’s clothing subject to limitations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only children’s upper outerwear. • Sizes 2t to 16 • Drawstrings may not extend more than 3 inches (75mm) past channel when garment is expanded to fullest width. • No toggles, knots, or other attachments at free ends. • “Bartacked” if drawstring is one continuous string. 	Drawstrings at waist and bottom of certain children’s clothing subject to limitations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only children’s upper outerwear. • Sizes 0 to 16 • Drawstrings may not extend more than 3 inches past channel when garment is expanded to fullest width. • No toggles, knots, or other attachments at free ends. • Drawstring is sewn to garment at midpoint of channel so it cannot be pulled out of channel. 	Drawstrings at waist and bottom of all children’s clothing subject to limitations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children’s clothing. • Sizes 2t to 16 • Drawstrings may not extend more than 3 inches past channel when garment is expanded to fullest width. • No toggles, knots, or other attachments at free ends. • Attached to garment at midpoint of drawstring.
Exemptions	Upper outerwear with fully retractable drawstrings.	None.	None
Definitions	Definitions cover the terms: bartack, bottom of upper outerwear, drawstring, hood, neck area, neck opening, toggle, upper outerwear, and waist.	Definitions cover the terms: neck area, upper outerwear. ³ These terms are modeled after ASTM definitions.	Definitions cover the terms: sell at retail, drawstring, tie, hood, neck opening, toggle, and aglet. Note: Ties are not considered drawstrings and aglets are not considered toggles.

Source: ASTM, West Conshohocken, PA; Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; New York State Assembly.

Updated: August 2006

¹ CPSC Recommend guidelines follow ASTM F 1816-97, but are silent on “exemptions” and “definitions” language.

² Wisconsin state officials suggest that garments such as hats, bathing suit tops, bibs, capes and other such articles of clothing with no pull drawstring in the “neck” area (i.e., no string pulled through a channel or eyelets one inch above or below the seam between the body of a garment and the collar or hood) are not targeted by this rule because they do not present a major strangulation hazard.

³ Wisconsin state officials stress that standard dictionary terms will apply where no definitions are given.