

September 11, 2019

Dear Representative:

As organizations dedicated to children's health and safety, we write to express our strong support for three bills as they move to the House floor. These bills would improve protections against preventable sleep-related deaths, as well as injuries and deaths from preventable furniture tip-overs. We urge you to support these bills to protect children from injuries and deaths.

The Safe Sleep for Babies Act of 2019 ([H.R. 3172](#)) would ban infant inclined sleep products, such as the recently recalled Fisher-Price Rock 'n Play Sleeper, which have been linked to the deaths of at least 50 infants. While there have been four recent recalls related to this product type, similar unsafe products of this type remain on the market. These products are deadly, and their design is inherently unsafe and incompatible with expert safe sleep recommendations, including from the American Academy of Pediatrics. This legislation would help prevent more families from experiencing the tragedy of losing a child by banning the products' manufacture, import, and sale.

The Safe Cribs Act of 2019 ([H.R. 3170](#)) would ban crib bumper pads. Bumper pads have led to dozens of infant suffocation deaths and do not offer protection to babies. These products are also inconsistent with expert safe sleep recommendations. Maryland, Ohio, New York State, Chicago, Illinois, and Watchung, New Jersey have taken action to protect babies. If H.R. 3170 becomes law, all babies in the United States would be similarly protected. This legislation would help prevent more families from experiencing the tragedy of losing a child to crib bumper pads by banning their manufacture, import, and sale altogether.

The STURDY Act ([H.R. 2211](#)) would direct the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create a mandatory clothing storage unit standard to help prevent furniture tip-overs. According to the CPSC, one child dies every ten days from a tip-over. Stronger product testing and safety requirements could prevent these fatalities. This bill is critically important because it would establish a strong mandatory standard for furniture stability. The STURDY Act would require the CPSC to create a mandatory rule that would: cover all clothing storage units, including those 30 inches in height or shorter; require testing to simulate the weights of children up to 72 months old; require testing measures to account for scenarios involving carpeting, loaded drawers, multiple open drawers, and the dynamic force of a climbing child; mandate strong warning requirements; and require the CPSC to issue the mandatory standard within one year of enactment. To protect children from furniture tip-overs, we need a strong mandatory standard and the STURDY Act includes those critically needed provisions.

These bills offer a vital opportunity to protect children from preventable injuries and deaths. We urge you to support these child health and safety bills, and to vote "yes" on them as they move to the House floor.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

American Academy of Pediatrics
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Center for Justice & Democracy
Child Care Aware of America
Child Injury Prevention Alliance
Children's Advocacy Institute
Consumer Federation of America
Consumer Reports
Cribs for Kids, Inc.
First Focus Campaign for Children
Keeping Babies Safe
Kids In Danger
MomsRising
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Consumers League
Parents for Window Blind Safety
Public Citizen
Safe Kids Worldwide
Safe States Alliance
The Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR)

State and Local Organizations:

Alaska Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AkPIRG)
American Academy of Pediatrics - Arizona Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics - California Chapter 3
American Academy of Pediatrics - Hawaii Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics Georgia Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics New York Chapter 1
American Academy of Pediatrics New York Chapter 2
American Academy of Pediatrics New York Chapter 3
American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics, Colorado Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics, Orange County Chapter
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Arkansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
California Chapter 1, American Academy of Pediatrics
Chicago Consumer Coalition
Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin
Consumer Assistance Council, Inc.
Consumer Assistance Council, Inc.

DC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Delaware Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Empire State Consumer Project
Florida Chapter - American Academy of Pediatrics
Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Illinois Action for Children
Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Iowa Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Island Pediatrics of Honolulu
Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Michigan Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics
Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
New Mexico Pediatric Society
North Carolina Pediatric Society
Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
OHSU/Doernbecher Tom Sargent Safety Center
Oklahoma Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Ounce of Prevention Fund
Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
South Dakota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Sudden Infant Death Services of Illinois, Inc.
Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Virginia Citizens Consumer Council
Virginia Citizens Consumer Council
Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Wyckoff Hospital
Wyoming Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

cc: Members of the House of Representatives