American Academy of Pediatrics



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Statement from Child Health and Consumer Advocacy Groups Supporting the Safe Sleep Act

American Academy of Pediatrics, Consumer Federation of America, Consumer Reports, and Kids In Danger

June 11, 2019

"As leading child health and consumer advocacy organizations, we are proud to join together in supporting H.R. 3172 and S. 1767, the Safe Sleep Act. Our groups have long been sounding the alarm on the dangers of infant inclined sleep products, and have been urging retailers to remove them from sale. These products are deadly, and their design is inherently unsafe. This legislation would help prevent more families from experiencing the tragedy of losing a child to one of these products by banning their manufacture, import, and sale altogether.

"The recent recalls of the Fisher-Price Rock 'n Play Sleeper and Kids II rocking sleepers – products that are linked to dozens of documented infant deaths – are important steps forward, but it is clear that current voluntary and mandatory standards do not protect infants from the dangers these products pose. Far too many of these products are still on store shelves and in families' homes, posing an urgent threat to child health. Parents often think that when they purchase a product for their child, it must be safe – but that is not necessarily the case. The safest sleeping environment for infants is always on their back, on a separate, flat and firm sleep surface without any bumpers or bedding. Infant inclined sleep products should not be used or sold anywhere, period.

"Together, we urge Congress to advance the Safe Sleep Act without delay and thank Representative Tony Cárdenas (D-Calif.) and Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) for their leadership on this issue. We also call on the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission to take immediate action and eliminate the infant inclined sleep product category completely. There is no question: infant inclined sleepers are dangerous and have no place in a safe sleep environment."

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About the American Academy of Pediatrics

The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 67,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. For more information, visit <u>www.aap.org</u> and follow us on Twitter @AmerAcadPeds.

About Consumer Federation of America

CFA is a non-profit association of approximately 280 pro-consumer groups that was founded in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through advocacy and education. <u>www.consumerfed.org</u>

About Consumer Reports

Consumer Reports is an independent, nonprofit membership organization that works side by side with consumers to create a fairer, safer, and healthier world. For 83 years, CR has provided evidence-based product testing and ratings, rigorous research, hard-hitting investigative journalism, public education, and steadfast policy action on behalf of consumers' interests. Unconstrained by advertising or other commercial influences, CR has exposed landmark public health and safety issues and strives to be a catalyst for pro-consumer changes in the marketplace. From championing responsible auto safety standards, to winning food and water protections, to enhancing healthcare quality, to fighting back against predatory lenders in the financial markets, Consumer Reports has always been on the front lines, raising the voices of consumers. www.consumerreports.org

About Kids In Danger

Kids In Danger (KID) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by fighting for product safety. KID's mission is to save lives by enhancing transparency and accountability through safer product development, better education and stronger advocacy for children.