

March 17, 2025

The Honorable Peter A. Feldman, Acting Chairman The Honorable Alexander Hoehn-Saric, Commissioner The Honorable Richard Trumka, Jr., Commissioner The Honorable Mary T. Boyle, Commissioner The Honorable Douglas Dziak, Commissioner U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission 4330 East-West Highway Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Acting Chairman Feldman and Commissioners Hoehn-Saric, Trumka, Boyle, and Dziak:

Consumer Reports, the independent, nonprofit, and nonpartisan organization, writes again regarding the Halo BassiNest Flex (Halo bassinet), which may not provide a level sleeping surface for infants. Expert medical guidance states that a firm, flat, noninclined sleeping surface is a key characteristic of a safe infant sleep environment that can help to reduce a baby's risk of injury or death, including from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). As we did in our January 25, 2024, letter to the CPSC, we once again urge the agency to investigate this bassinet and push for its recall to protect babies from potentially unsafe sleep spaces.

CR already notified consumers of the harm regarding this product in the January 25, 2024, article, Some Ingenuity and Halo Bassinets Can Tilt Dangerously and Pose Risks to Infants. Our recent analysis of SaferProducts.gov reports and publicly available reviews found an additional ten complaints since January 2024 connecting this bassinet to hazards that could create an unsafe sleep environment for infants.⁴ After reviewing the reports, we found that nine out of the ten reported incidents mentioned the hazard "roll," which suggests that the Halo bassinets may create an incline that can cause babies to roll over onto their stomachs or roll into the corner of the sleep surface, increasing the risk of suffocation. The Halo bassinet is actively being sold by companies including Target, Walmart, and Amazon.

¹ Halo Bassinest Flex Portable Bassinet (last accessed: Mar. 10, 2025) (online at: www.halosleep.com/portable-travel-bassinest-flex-4791).

² American Academy of Pediatrics, "Safe-Related Infant Deaths: Updated 2022 Recommendations for Reducing Infant Deaths in the Sleep Environment," (June 21, 2022) (online at: <u>publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/150/1/e2022057990/188304/Sleep-Related-Infant-Deaths-Updated-2022</u>).

³ Please see the attached January 25, 2024, letter from Consumer Reports to the CPSC

⁴ Kirchner, Lauren, Consumer Reports, "Some Ingenuity and Halo Bassinets Can Tilt Dangerously and Pose Risks to Infants," (Jan. 25, 2024) (online at: www.consumerreports.org/babies-kids/bassinets/ingenuity-and-halo-bassinets-can-tilt-dangerously-a8700348394/).

Since January 2024, there have been new consumer reviews appearing continually for the Halo bassinets that state they would not stay level, causing the baby to roll over onto their side or stomach. On December 20, 2023, a proposed class action lawsuit was filed against Halo, alleging that the Halo BassiNest Flex is a "dangerously defective bedside bassinet" that tilts when in use, "leading to infants rolling from their backs to dangerous sleep positions and putting them at risk of SIDS." A second, similar case was filed against the company on June 7, 2024. The cases have since been consolidated, and there is a pending class action settlement that received preliminary approval on February 10, 2025, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Despite the parties reaching a settlement, we contend that the CPSC's work to ensure compliance with the Consumer Product Safety Act should continue with respect to this product.

In short, due to the risk that the Halo BassiNest Flex may put babies in unsafe sleep environments, we respectfully ask the CPSC to ensure an appropriate recall of the product occurs.

Thank you for your attention to these products, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Ashita Kapoor Associate Director Product Safety Gabe Knight Senior Policy Analyst

cc: Brien Lorenze, DeWayne Ray, Duane Boniface, and Jen Sultan

⁵ Marble et. al. v. HALO Innovations, Inc., 1:23-cv-11048, at 1, 108 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 20, 2023).

⁶ Bender v. HALO Innovations, Inc., 1:24-cv-4371 (S.D.N.Y. June 7, 2024).

⁷ Watwe, Shweta, Bloomberg Law, "Halo Innovations Gets Nod For \$1.5 Million Bassinet Class Deal" (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at: news.bloomberglaw.com/class-action/halo-innovations-gets-nod-for-1-5-million-bassinet-class-deal).

SaferProducts.gov public reports about potential tilt or rollover:

Halo Bassinest Flex Bassinet new incidents since January 2024 (for previous cases, see attached Jan. 25, 2024, letter)

1. Report Number: 20240113-39755-2147342781

Report Date: 1/13/2024

Report First Publication Date: 2/8/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4572145

2. Report Number: 20240118-3EE8B-2147342652

Report Date: 1/18/2024

Report First Publication Date: 2/14/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4572777

3. Report Number: 20240212-510D7-2147341065

Report Date: 2/12/2024

Report First Publication Date: 3/1/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4615285

4. Report Number: 20240215-E242E-2147340973

Report Date: 2/15/2024

Report First Publication Date: 3/6/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4616034

5. Report Number: 20240218-F0231-2147340918

Report Date: 2/18/2024

Report First Publication Date: 3/12/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4625438

6. Report Number: 20240327-5E0D3-2147340120

Report Date: 3/27/2024

Report First Publication Date: 5/2/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4674965

7. Report Number: 20240504-2F447-2147339386

Report Date: 5/4/2024

Report First Publication Date: 5/22/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4721495

8. Report Number: 20240527-97B4C-2147338980

Report Date: 5/27/2024

Report First Publication Date: 6/26/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4750043

9. Report Number: 20241007-5AB41-2147336107

Report Date: 10/7/2024

Report First Publication Date: 11/21/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4932219

10. Report Number: 20241104-210CF-2147335548

Report Date: 11/4/2024

Report First Publication Date: 12/2/2024

Link: https://www.saferproducts.gov/PublicSearch/Detail?ReportId=4979520