

May 9, 2022

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker, Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Dear Senator:

We write to express our collective support for the STURDY Act (S. 3232), a bipartisan home safety bill that would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create a minimum furniture stability standard to protect children from tip-overs by ensuring that clothing storage furniture is manufactured to resist tipping over under real-world use. After several rounds of language negotiations involving majority and minority Commerce Committee staff, the undersigned victims' family group, furniture industry organizations, retailers, manufacturers, consumer advocates, and medical groups have reached an agreement on legislative text.

This language agreement for the STURDY Act maintains the strength of the safety requirements in the original bill and continues to ensure timely implementation, while also ensuring furniture industry interests are recognized in the establishment of a final rule. The bill would direct the CPSC to adopt an improved and revised voluntary standard, such as the one currently being developed by the ASTM furniture safety subcommittee, if it meets certain requirements specified in the legislation. Any voluntary standard adopted by the CPSC would need to address the real-world reasons clothing storage units—such as chests, bureaus, and dressers—sometimes tip over. Further, the bill provides an opportunity for manufacturers to petition the CPSC for alternative testing to allow for innovative safety technologies that would result in more stable clothing storage units.

This joint letter serves as our collective request to all members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to co-sponsor the amended STURDY Act, and support its passage out of Committee during the markup scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

The CPSC has published a notice of proposed rulemaking on clothing storage units and the agency's deadline for receiving public comments has passed, making this a time-sensitive matter. While the undersigned parties have differing views on the effectiveness of the CPSC's proposal, we all support the immediate passage of the amended STURDY Act.

We look forward to your support of the STURDY Act's expedited passage through the Commerce Committee and the full Senate.

Respectfully,



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