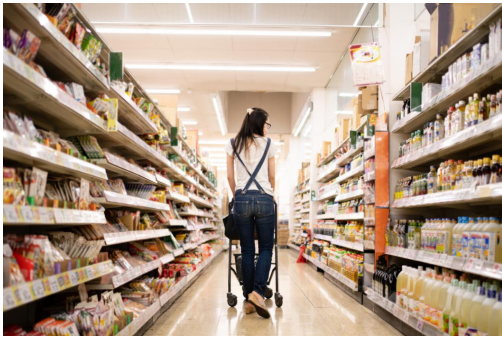




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- How Home Buyers and Sellers can Cope with New Real Estate Broker Rules and Practices
- CFA Supports FTC Chair Lina Khan's Consumer Protection Achievements
- Congress Introduces Bills to Protect Infants from Hazardous Weighted Sleep Products



What the Next Administration Needs to Know to Lower Grocery Prices

By Thomas Gremillion, Director of Food Policy

Americans are increasingly frustrated with rising food prices, which have surged 20% in the past four years. The food retail sector's consolidation, dominated by a few major players like Walmart and Kroger, is exacerbating the problem, potentially leading to higher prices and reduced



How Home Buyers and Sellers can Cope with New Real Estate Broker Rules and Practices

By Steve Brobeck, Senior Fellow

On August 17, new National Association of Realtors (NAR) rules began impacting real estate transactions: sellers are no longer required to pay buyer agents, and buyers must sign contracts specifying their agents' compensation. This shift may confuse consumers, as many agents might try to maintain traditional compensation structures to

consumer choice. The Federal Trade Commission is challenging a merger between Kroger and Albertsons, citing concerns about higher prices and lower wages. The Biden Administration has initiated steps to support smaller producers and enhance competition, but further action is needed to address the broader issues within the food system. The next Administration should expand on these efforts to restore competition in the food system.

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CFA Supports FTC Chair Lina Khan's Consumer Protection Achievements

By Erin Witte, Director of Consumer Protection

Earlier this month, 25 national and state consumer protection advocacy organizations sent a letter to the 2024 presidential candidates, urging them to reject demands to fire Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan. The letter details her accomplishments in consumer protection, including how she has taken bold steps to strengthen data privacy, particularly for children and

preserve overall commission rates. To navigate these changes, CFA advises selecting a knowledgeable agent, carefully reviewing and understanding contract terms, and negotiating commissions directly. With the new rules in place, buyers and sellers should be cautious about unfair contract provisions and consider negotiating agent fees to ensure transparency and fairness in the new real estate landscape.

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Congress Introduces Bills to Protect Infants from Hazardous Weighted Sleep Products

By Courtney Griffin, Director of Consumer Product Safety

Annually, approximately 3,400 sleep-related infant deaths occur in the U.S., often linked to unsafe sleep environments. The American Academy of Pediatrics emphasizes that impaired arousal from sleep, a potential effect from weighted sleep products, could increase the risk of sudden unexpected infant death. Additionally,

teenagers, by expressly moving away from the harmful “notice and choice” regime, pushing for stronger consumer protection rules, and bringing groundbreaking enforcement actions. Chair Khan has secured bipartisan support on many key issues, including cracking down on false “made in USA” claims, investigating surveillance pricing tactics, and blocking anticompetitive mergers, underscoring the fact that consumer protection is not - and should not be - a political exercise.

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pressure on infants’ underdeveloped rib cages could affect their breathing and heart rate. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Reps. Tony Cárdenas (D-CA-29) and Kim Schrier, M.D. (D-WA-08) introduced the *Safeguarding Infants from Dangerous Sleep Act* in the U.S. Senate and House that would ban weighted sleep products for infants. CFA, Kids In Danger (KID), and Safe Infant Sleep applaud the introduction of this legislation to protect infants from these inherently dangerous products.

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CFA News Update is a publication of the Consumer Federation of America

Editor: Katie McCann

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