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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**WASHINGTON DC OFFICE**  
1027 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6411

**LEHIGH COUNTY OFFICE**  
504 W. HAMILTON ST., SUITE 3804  
ALLENTOWN, PA 18101  
(484) 781-6000

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY OFFICE**  
400 NORTHAMPTON ST, SUITE 503  
EASTON, PA 18042  
(610) 333-1170

**MONROE COUNTY OFFICE**  
637 MAIN ST. SUITE 316  
STROUDSBURG, PA 18360  
(570) 807-0333

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June 1, 2021

The Honorable Robert S. Adler, Acting Chairman  
The Honorable Elliot F. Kaye, Commissioner  
The Honorable Dana Baiocco, Commissioner  
The Honorable Peter A. Feldman, Commissioner  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East-West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Acting Chairman Adler and Commissioners Kaye, Baiocco, and Feldman,

I am writing to express my strong support for the draft final rule establishing a Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) safety standard for infant sleep products. I urge you to approve the rule without delay, and I respectfully request that this vote of approval be unanimous. A unanimous vote to finalize the rule would emphasize the imperative of protecting infants and their families from the dangers of unregulated infant sleep products.

The current state of unregulated infant sleep products puts babies at serious and unnecessary risk. At least 94 infant deaths have been associated with inclined sleepers, and at least 23 deaths are associated with unregulated sleep products. These products do not align with the American Academy of Pediatrics' safe sleep recommendations, which are evidence-based guidelines intended to reduce the risk of sudden infant death and sleep-related suffocation, asphyxia, or entrapment.

Infant inclined sleepers are not currently required to meet one of the Consumer Product Safety Commission's safety standards. Under the draft rule, which I urge the Commission to finalize, products that are not currently covered by a safety standard would become regulated and be required to meet minimum safety standards.

This dearth of safety regulations resulted in tragedy for one of my constituents, when her infant son died ten years ago in an inclined infant sleeper. Future deaths like this— and the

unimaginable pain that families experience after these tragedies— can be prevented if the Commission votes to finalize this rule and increase the safety of infant sleep products. The Commission must not wait for more tragedies to occur before taking action.

In our current marketplace, parents and families have no reliable way to know which products are safe for infants to sleep in and which are not. As such, the necessary solution is for the Commission to require all infant sleep products to comply with minimum standards that will protect babies from unsafe sleeping arrangements. The proposed rule would ensure that all baby sleep products align closely with standards recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. These standards will help parents and caregivers understand which products are safe for which purposes and prevent babies from unnecessary risk.

The proposed rule on which the Commission will soon vote comes after years of the Commission's engagement with stakeholders, including medical and consumer groups, juvenile product manufacturers, and independent child product engineers and experts. If finalized, this rule would greatly increase the safety of infant products that are on the market and enable parents to shop with the certainty that consumer products meet reasonable safety standards.

Given the health and safety evidence, I urge you to support safe infant sleep and adopt this rule. The rule would ensure a minimum level of safety for each product intended or marketed for infant sleep. This will reduce the likelihood infants will be exposed to hazards while sleeping and help prevent another crisis of unsafe infant sleep from happening in the future.

I urge you to unanimously finalize this rule without delay. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Susan Wild  
Member of Congress