



## The STURDY Act Protects Children

*The STURDY Act (S. 3232) would require a strong, timely furniture safety standard*

**Since 2000, hundreds of children have died.** Every year, thousands are injured. This is the terrible toll of furniture tip-overs. A voluntary standards process controlled by furniture manufacturers has failed families. Recently, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) published a draft rule, after first seeking comments four years ago. At least 30 children died from tip-overs during that time, including at least four just since February. These tragedies are preventable, and **urgent action by Congress is needed to protect children.**

### The STURDY Act is the solution to tip-overs. Here's why:

#### 1. STURDY has concrete, timely deadlines to get a strong rule completed.

The STURDY Act directs the CPSC to finalize a rule within one year of enactment; the current rulemaking process has no timeline and could take over a decade to complete. History shows: when Congress wants the CPSC to complete a rule, it takes bipartisan action to grant the agency rulemaking authority under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

#### Effective bipartisan CPSC bills with APA rulemaking

- Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (2008)
  - 24 rules developed and supported by industry
- Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (2008)
- Drywall Safety Act (2012)

#### Onerous baseline CPSC rulemaking authority (Sec. 7 & 9)

- Just 10 final rules since 1981 amendments
- No new valid safety standard since 1999
- Wastes time and resources

#### 2. STURDY would ensure a final rule has critical safety provisions to protect children.

- A minimum test weight reflecting the weight of children who have been killed
- Objective, repeatable, and measurable tests simulating real-world interactions of children with furniture
- Clarity on which chests, bureaus, and dressers are considered a “clothing storage unit” subject to the bill

#### 3. STURDY provides regulatory certainty.

The strong and timely rule required under the STURDY Act would set a level playing field across the marketplace, upon which anyone buying new furniture could rely. The bill would give manufacturers, retailers, and consumers regulatory certainty, especially compared to the unpredictable Sec. 7 & 9 process.

#### 4. STURDY promotes innovation, and is supported by a broad range of stakeholders including parents, consumer advocates, medical groups, manufacturers, and retailers.

Proposed STURDY Act language from a broad range of stakeholders includes the ability for companies or individuals to develop and petition for new safety technologies. It is **supported by major furniture sellers including IKEA, Williams-Sonoma, Crate & Barrel, Room & Board, The Home Depot, and Best Buy.**

*The STURDY Act is a critical bill that would save lives in our homes. It's the best way to prevent furniture tip-over tragedies and help keep children safe.*