

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

STOP TIP-OVERS OF UNSTABLE, RISKY DRESSERS ON YOUTH ACT

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2211) to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2211

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth Act" or the "STURDY Act".

SEC. 2. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD TO PROTECT AGAINST TIP-OVER OF CLOTHING STORAGE UNITS.

(a) *CLOTHING STORAGE UNIT DEFINED.*—In this section, the term "clothing storage unit" means any free-standing furniture item manufactured in the United States or imported for use in the United States that is intended for the storage of clothing, typical of bedroom furniture.

(b) CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD REQUIRED.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in subsection (c)(1), not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall—

(A) in consultation with representatives of consumer groups, clothing storage unit manufacturers, craft or handmade furniture manufacturers, and independent child product engineers and experts, examine and assess the effectiveness of any voluntary consumer product safety standards for clothing storage units; and (B) in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code, promulgate a final consumer product safety standard for clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over-related death or injury that includes—

(i) tests that simulate the weight of children up to 60 pounds;

(ii) objective, repeatable, and measurable tests that simulate real world use and account for any impact on clothing storage unit stability that may result from placement on carpeted surfaces, drawers with items in them, multiple open drawers, or dynamic force;

(iii) testing of all clothing storage units, including those under 30 inches in height; and (iv) warning requirements based on ASTM F2057-17, or its successor at the time of enactment, provided that the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall strengthen the requirements of ASTM F2057-17, or its successor, if reasonably necessary to protect children from tip-over-related death or injury.

(2) *TREATMENT OF STANDARD.*—A consumer product safety standard promulgated under paragraph (1) shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

(c) *SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKING.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—At any time subsequent to the publication of a consumer product safety standard under subsection (b)(1), the Commission may initiate a rulemaking, in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code to modify the requirements of the consumer product safety standard described in subsection (b)(1) if reasonably necessary to protect children from tip-over-related death or injury.

(2) *REVISION OF RULE.*—If, after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revises its Clinical Growth Charts, the consumer product safety standard described in subsection (b)(1) shall, on the date that is 180 days after such revision, be revised to include tests that simulate the weight of children up to the 95th percentile weight of children 72 months in age, as depicted in the revised Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Clinical Growth Charts, unless the Commission determines the modification is not reasonably necessary to protect children from tip-over-related death or injury.

(3) *TREATMENT OF RULES.*—Any rule promulgated under paragraph (1) or revision made pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LONG) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 2211.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a very proud and grateful person who has been a consumer advocate all of my life.

Today, Congressman LONG, you and I are going to be dealing with bills that may not always get the top headlines, but they save lives.

When I say grateful, I am so grateful to our ranking member, Congresswoman RODGERS, and for all the bipartisan support that we have had on these bills. It means so much to me.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 2211, the Stop Tip-overs of Unstable Risky Dressers on Youth Act, which is known as the STURDY Act.

I introduced this legislation with Representatives JERRY MCNERNEY,

DARREN SOTO, and BOBBY RUSH. This legislation advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee on July 17, 2019, by voice vote, meaning unanimously, bipartisanly.

According to data collected by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, a child is injured from a tip-over every 17 minutes. Every 10 days, a child dies from one of these tip-overs. Particularly deadly are tip-overs of clothing storage units, such as dressers.

Since 2000, these clothing units have killed more than 200 children in the United States. Victims tend to be under the age of 6. At this age, children are mobile and curious. They like to climb on furniture, play in the drawers, or stand in the drawers and reach for items on top of units. Tragedy can come in just minutes. Just after a child awakes from a nap or a night's sleep, they are likely to engage in this kind of activity.

Tens of millions of dressers have been recalled in recent years. Unfortunately, children continue to die from furniture tip-overs. That is because the current industry furniture stability standard is simply too weak. It does not cover shorter clothing storage units that have also been known to kill children, and industry tests don't cover common hazard patterns. Moreover, the standard is only voluntary.

That is why it is critical that we pass the STURDY Act, which would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a strong and mandatory safety standard that is effective at preventing furniture tip-overs.

I especially thank the families of victims, the people who have come with pictures of their children or their loved ones to talk about how important this bill is, how hard it is for them to talk about the terrible loss of life in their families. It is those people who have really told the story of how important it is for us to act today.

I appreciate the willingness, as I said before, of our ranking member and all the Republicans to work with me to bring this bill to the floor. I call on all of my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I have personal knowledge of this type of situation. Just within the last 30 days, a friend of mine lost a 3-year-old grandchild due to one of these situations. There can be nothing worse than losing a child. To have a vibrant 3-year-old child one minute and a deceased 3-year-old the next is not acceptable.

This bill directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue a consumer product safety standard for clothing storage units, to prevent them from tipping over onto children.

In the spirit of bipartisanship, we support this bill moving forward with the House passage today.

I thank my friend Ms. SCHAKOWSKY for her efforts in this endeavor. I urge

my colleagues to support H.R. 2211, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding, and I thank her for her work on this bill. I thank my friend BILLY LONG for his support and encouragement on this.

I do rise today in support of H.R. 2211, the STURDY Act. When consumers purchase a piece of furniture, they trust that the product is safe. But out of 42 common household dressers recently subjected to rigorous testing by Consumer Reports, only 20 met the robust stability standards. The reason why is that current voluntary standards are woefully inadequate.

The voluntary standards apply only to dressers 30 inches or taller, despite multiple fatalities and injuries involving shorter dressers. Industry standards only require the dresser to remain upright when a 50-pound weight is hung from the top drawer, even though 60 pounds is more accurately the weight of a 6-year-old. The result: over 200 reported deaths from furniture tip-overs since 2000. That is 200 deaths. Most victims are under the age of 6.

Mr. Speaker, the most profound responsibility we have as adults is to protect our children. In 2016, a 2-year-old from my home State of California died when a dresser tipped over onto him.

We know the problem: lax industry standards that really only protect the manufacturers and not their customers.

We have a solution: the STURDY Act, which establishes robust standards to stop this tip-over epidemic. The STURDY Act will modernize standards to apply to dressers under 30 inches; accurately simulate the weight of a 6-year-old; and account for real-world dynamics, such as the movement of drawers and different flooring surfaces.

By setting mandatory standards, the STURDY Act will better enable the CPSC to enforce requirements and facilitate recalls. The legislation will expedite the CPSC's rulemaking process, ensuring these lifesaving protections are in our homes as soon as possible.

That is the robust action we need to end this tip-over epidemic.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the STURDY Act, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, first, let me extend my condolences to the friend of Mr. LONG's family.

This is really poignant, that Mr. LONG is carrying this bill today on the floor of the House of Representatives. Hopefully, none of us see such an accident again.

Mr. Speaker, I include three letters for the RECORD: a letter from 20 national organizations and more than 50 State and local organizations that represent pediatricians and consumers throughout the United States, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, Consumer Federation of America,

Consumer Reports, and Kids In Danger, among many others, urging strong support of the STURDY Act; a letter from Parents Against Tip-Overs, parents of actual children who have died, also urging strong support by Members of the STURDY Act; and a letter from Consumer Reports, also urging strong support by our colleagues for the STURDY Act.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: As organizations dedicated to children's health and safety, we write to express our strong support for three bills as they move to the House floor. These bills would improve protections against preventable sleep-related deaths, as well as injuries and deaths from preventable furniture tip-overs. We urge you to support these bills to protect children from injuries and deaths.

The Safe Sleep for Babies Act of 2019 (H.R. 3172) would ban infant inclined sleep products, such as the recently recalled Fisher-Price Rock 'n Play Sleeper, which have been linked to the deaths of at least 50 infants. While there have been four recent recalls related to this product type, similar unsafe products of this type remain on the market. These products are deadly, and their design is inherently unsafe and incompatible with expert safe sleep recommendations, including from the American Academy of Pediatrics. This legislation would help prevent more families from experiencing the tragedy of losing a child by banning the products' manufacture, import, and sale.

The Safe Cribs Act of 2019 (H.R. 3170) would ban crib bumper pads. Bumper pads have led to dozens of infant suffocation deaths and do not offer protection to babies. These products are also inconsistent with expert safe sleep recommendations. Maryland, Ohio, New York State, Chicago, Illinois, and Watchung, New Jersey have taken action to protect babies. If H.R. 3170 becomes law, all babies in the United States would be similarly protected. This legislation would help prevent more families from experiencing the tragedy of losing a child to crib bumper pads by banning their manufacture, import, and sale altogether.

The STURDY Act (H.R. 2211) would direct the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create a mandatory clothing storage unit standard to help prevent furniture tip-overs. According to the CPSC, one child dies every ten days from a tip-over. Stronger product testing and safety requirements could prevent these fatalities. This bill is critically important because it would establish a strong mandatory standard for furniture stability. The STURDY Act would require the CPSC to create a mandatory rule that would: cover all clothing storage units, including those 30 inches in height or shorter; require testing to simulate the weights of children up to 72 months old; require testing measures to account for scenarios involving carpeting, loaded drawers, multiple open drawers, and the dynamic force of a climbing child; mandate strong warning requirements; and require the CPSC to issue the mandatory standard within one year of enactment. To protect children from furniture tip-overs, we need a strong mandatory standard and the STURDY Act includes those critically needed provisions.

These bills offer a vital opportunity to protect children from preventable injuries and deaths. We urge you to support these child health and safety bills, and to vote "yes" on them as they move to the House floor.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

American Academy of Pediatrics; Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs;

Center for Justice & Democracy; Child Care Aware of America; Child Injury Prevention Alliance; Children's Advocacy Institute; Consumer Federation of America; Consumer Reports; Cribs for Kids, Inc.; First Focus Campaign for Children; Keeping Babies Safe; Kids In Danger; MomsRising; National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners; National Consumers League; Parents for Window Blind Safety; Public Citizen; Safe Kids Worldwide; Safe States Alliance; The Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR).

State and Local Organizations:

Alaska Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG); American Academy of Pediatrics—Arizona Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics—California Chapter 3; American Academy of Pediatrics—Hawaii Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics—Georgia Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics—New York Chapter 1; American Academy of Pediatrics—New York Chapter 2; American Academy of Pediatrics—New York Chapter 3; American Academy of Pediatrics—Vermont Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics—Colorado Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics—Orange County Chapter; Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago; Arkansas Chapter; American Academy of Pediatrics.

California Chapter 1, American Academy of Pediatrics; Chicago Consumer Coalition; Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin; Consumer Assistance Council, Inc.; Consumer Assistance Council, Inc.; DC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Delaware Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Empire State Consumer Project; Florida Chapter—American Academy of Pediatrics; Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Illinois Action for Children; Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Iowa Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Island Pediatrics of Honolulu.

Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Michigan Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics; Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; New Mexico Pediatric Society; North Carolina Pediatric Society.

Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; OHSU/Doembecher Tom Sargent Safety Center; Oklahoma Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Ounce of Prevention Fund; Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; South Dakota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Sudden Infant Death Services of Illinois, Inc.; Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; Virginia Citizens Consumer Council; Virginia Citizens Consumer Council; Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Wyckoff Hospital; Wyoming Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

PARENTS AGAINST TIP-OVERS,

September 16, 2019.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: As a parent group directly impacted by the dangers of unstable furniture, Parents Against Tip-overs is writing to express our strong support for H.R. 2211, the STURDY Act, as it moves to the House floor. This bill is desperately needed,

as it would reduce injuries and deaths from preventable furniture tip-overs. Furniture tip-over is not a partisan issue, but one of safety, and we urge you to support this bill to protect your most vulnerable constituents, the children.

One of our founding members, Crystal Ellis, had the opportunity to testify in front of the Consumer Protection Subcommittee about the STURDY Act, on what would have been her son, Camden's 7th birthday. He was tragically killed in a furniture tip-over incident that happened just two days before his second birthday. All of our children deserve to be here and would have been here, had a strong mandatory standard, that takes into account real world use, would have been put into place sooner. The industry has been working on a standard for almost two decades with no significant change in the data. Furniture manufacturers insist that they need more data. Their data, as Crystal explained in her testimony, is our dead and injured children. We do not need more data. If after 19 years there is not an adequate voluntary standard in place, it's unlikely there will ever be an effective furniture safety standard that will reduce injuries and deaths to children without the STURDY Act becoming law. The industry clearly won't make this happen without direction from Congress. We need your help. If this law existed 14 years ago, all of the PAT children would still be alive today. The STURDY Act will save lives and the time to put it in place is now.

The STURDY Act (H.R. 2211) would direct the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create a mandatory clothing storage unit standard to help prevent furniture tip-overs. According to the CPSC, one child dies every ten days from a tip-over. Stronger product testing and safety requirements could prevent these fatalities. This bill is critically important because it would establish a strong mandatory standard for furniture stability. The STURDY Act would require the CPSC to create a mandatory rule that would: cover all clothing storage units, including those 30 inches in height or shorter; require testing to simulate the weights of children up to 72 months old; require testing measures to account for scenarios involving carpeting, loaded drawers, multiple open drawers, and the dynamic force of a climbing child; mandate strong warning requirements; and require the CPSC to issue the mandatory standard within one year of enactment. To protect children from furniture tip-overs, we need a strong mandatory standard and the STURDY Act includes those critically needed provisions.

This bill offers you, as the voice of parents and children in the House of Representatives, a vital opportunity to protect children from preventable injuries and deaths from furniture tip-overs. We respectfully urge you to support the STURDY Act and to vote "yes" on it as it moves to the House floor.

Sincerely,

CRYSTAL ELLIS,
Parents Against Tip-overs Founding Member.

CONSUMER REPORTS,
September 17, 2019.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Consumer Reports, the independent, non-profit member organization, urges you to vote yes on H.R. 2211, H.R. 1618, and H.R. 806, three bills that would help protect consumers from product safety hazards in their homes. CR testified before the House Energy and Commerce Committee in support of these bills in June, and urges their passage today for the reasons below.

H.R. 2211, THE STURDY ACT

Consumer Reports strongly supports H.R. 2211, the "Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky

Dressers on Youth Act," or the STURDY Act, and urges its swift passage. The bill would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to establish a strong mandatory safety standard to improve the stability of dressers and similar clothing storage furniture and help prevent deaths and injuries resulting from when they tip over onto children. Long a hidden hazard in the home, tip-overs send thousands of people to the emergency room annually. Dressers and other clothing storage units are particularly lethal, accounting for at least 206 reported deaths since the year 2000, with most of the victims being children younger than age 6.

CR has found that the most effective and most widely touted tip-over prevention strategy available today—anchoring a dresser to the wall using brackets and straps—is not an easy fix for the majority of consumers. Our nationally representative survey last year of 1,502 U.S. adults found that only 27% of Americans had anchored furniture in their homes, and among Americans with kids under age 6 at home, 40% anchored their furniture. Fundamentally, because a child's life should not rely on consumer skill at anchoring a dresser to a wall, CR has called on the furniture industry to consistently produce dressers and other clothing storage units that are designed to be more stable and that better resist tipping over onto children.

Over the past two years, CR has conducted extensive research, analysis of incident and injury data, and comparative testing of a cross-section of dressers in the marketplace. Based on our investigation, we found that the industry's voluntary standard leaves too many children at risk. Our results demonstrated that it is feasible for dressers at all price points to pass a more rigorous test. CR bought 42 dressers for evaluation, and put them through a series of three progressively tougher stability tests. While 13 dressers failed all but the first of the tests, 20 dressers passed all the testing, underscoring that manufacturers are capable of successfully designing more stable dressers. The failures reinforce why a stronger standard is necessary to protect consumers. The 20 dressers that passed all our tests cost various amounts, and were representative of all price points in the market.

In light of the unreasonable risk of death or injury to children and the findings of our investigation, CR and others have been advocating for the CPSC to develop and implement a strong mandatory safety standard with performance requirements for the stability of dressers and other clothing storage units. While both Republican and Democratic CPSC commissioners have expressed support for measures to strengthen the current safety framework around furniture tip-overs, the agency has so far failed to act, and commissioners have recognized that CPSC rulemaking under its Consumer Product Safety Act Section 7 and 9 authority is likely to take several years, if not a full decade, to complete. To account for the weight of children under age 6 and the feasibility demonstrated by CR's test results, CR has said the standard should, at a minimum, include a loaded stability test of 60 pounds. We also have said that it is critical for the standard to be mandatory, not voluntary, for several reasons, including because:

Under the current system of safety oversight, consumers essentially must place their trust in manufacturers that they will produce a reasonably stable dresser;

Wall anchors and other tip-over restraint devices, while important, are no substitute for adequate stability performance testing;

A mandatory standard is justified under the Consumer Product Safety Act—with the

CPSC able to find that such a rule is reasonably necessary and in the public interest;

CR's testing shows that manufacturers are capable of incorporating appropriate design changes to their products that yield adequate stability, and of offering units for sale to consumers that are affordable and do not sacrifice utility; and

Such a standard would allow the CPSC to enforce requirements, including performance standards, and more readily gain industry cooperation for recalls; historically, companies have not carried out tip-over-related dresser recalls unless they face overwhelming CPSC and public pressure, or their product is linked to a death or failed CPSC stability test.

Enactment of the STURDY Act would help ensure the fastest possible implementation of a strong stability standard, and the reduced delay could save children's lives. In addition to CR, the bill has the support of *Parents Against Tip-overs* and a broad coalition of 75 pediatrician, safety, and consumer groups. A bipartisan majority of CPSC commissioners also has expressed support for the STURDY Act and enactment of a legislative solution that would permit the CPSC to take faster action to help prevent tip-overs than the promulgation of a rule under its traditional rulemaking authority and procedures.

The hazard to children of furniture tip-overs has been insufficiently addressed by both the furniture industry and the CPSC for years. Congress, today, has the chance to finally force a more protective stability standard to take effect. We urge members to seize this opportunity for leadership on behalf of child safety and pass H.R. 2211, the STURDY Act, without delay.

H.R. 1618, THE NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT

Consumer Reports supports H.R. 1618, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2019. According to the CDC, during 2010–2015, a total of 2,244 deaths resulted from unintentional carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, with 393 of those deaths occurring in 2015. CR often stresses the importance of installing and maintaining CO detectors, and offers a buying guide and ratings to give consumers comparative information about different products that CR has tested. To help keep consumers safe, CR also has published stories about how to ensure that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors function properly.

H.R. 1618 would establish a grant program for CO poisoning prevention, administered by the CPSC. The grants would help push states to require that up-to-date carbon monoxide detectors be installed in all dwelling units and numerous other facilities with the capacity to hold a large number of people, and encourage states to develop a strategy to protect vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, or low-income households. With hundreds of people dying each year from carbon monoxide poisoning, it is appropriate to establish a modest CPSC-administered grant program to promote the installation of CO detectors, especially for vulnerable populations. This grant program can be an important part of a broader, multi-pronged strategy to significantly reduce injuries and deaths associated with carbon monoxide poisoning, and Congress should pass the bill.

H.R. 806, THE PORTABLE FUEL CONTAINER SAFETY ACT

Consumer Reports supports H.R. 806, the Portable Fuel Container Safety Act of 2019. According to National Fire Protection Association estimates, fire departments responded to an average of 160,910 fires per year in the 2007–2011 period that started with ignition of a flammable or combustible liquid, resulting in an estimated 454 civilian

deaths, 3,910 civilian injuries, and \$1.5 billion in direct property damage per year. Manufacturers and safety experts have identified a portion of the death and injury toll to address through product design: incidents involving flame jetting from portable fuel containers intended for reuse by consumers.

Despite the fact that people should never pour fuel such as gasoline, kerosene, or diesel over a flame or use such fuel for fire-starting purposes, people do—creating a foreseeable scenario that this Act would help address. The Portable Fuel Container Safety Act would require flame mitigation devices, or flame arrestors, to prevent flame from entering these containers and igniting the gases inside. This requirement is consistent with a new voluntary standard recently finalized by ASTM International that the CPSC could decide to treat as a mandatory standard under the bill if the agency determines that it meets the bill's minimum conditions.

The new ASTM standard represents a step forward for safety, and all portable fuel containers intended for reuse by consumers should conform to its provisions. Congress should pass H.R. 806 to ensure this standard or a similar standard becomes mandatory. Consumers should have assurance that any new portable fuel container they may buy—which they or someone else may use or misuse—will contain an effective flame mitigation device, and that the CPSC can readily take action if a manufacturer fails to follow the law.

CONCLUSION

Consumer Reports thanks all members of the House of Representatives for their consideration of these important bills to improve safety around the home for millions of people nationwide. We urge you to vote yes on H.R. 2211, H.R. 1618, and H.R. 806, and look forward to working together in the future to ensure a safe marketplace for all consumers.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM WALLACE,
Manager, Home and Safety Policy.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I encourage our colleagues to vote for H.R. 2211. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2211. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2211, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT OF 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1618) to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1618

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Nicholas and Zachary Burt Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death.

(2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves, kills more than 400 people each year and sends more than 15,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

(3) Research shows that purchasing and installing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping areas in residential homes and other dwelling units can help avoid fatalities.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Congress should promote the purchase and installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential homes and dwelling units nationwide in order to promote the health and public safety of citizens throughout the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term “carbon monoxide alarm” means a device or system that—

(A) detects carbon monoxide; and

(B) is intended to alarm at carbon monoxide concentrations below those that could cause a loss of ability to react to the dangers of carbon monoxide exposure.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(3) COMPLIANT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term “compliant carbon monoxide alarm” means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with the most current version of—

(A) the American National Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms (ANSI/UL 2034); or

(B) the American National Standard for Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/UL 2075).

(4) DWELLING UNIT.—The term “dwelling unit” means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, and includes a single family residence as well as each living unit of a multiple family residence (including apartment buildings) and each living unit in a mixed use building.

(5) FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.—The term “fire code enforcement officials” means officials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of a State or local government.

(6) INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.—The term “IFC” means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Fire Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(7) INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE.—The term “IRC” means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Residential Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(8) NFPA 72.—The term “NFPA 72” means—

(A) the National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code issued in 2019 by the National Fire Protection Association; or

(B) any amended or similar successor standard pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(9) STATE.—The term “State” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052) and includes the Northern Mariana Islands and any political subdivision of a State.

SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations authorized under subsection (f), the Commission shall establish a grant program to provide assistance to eligible States to carry out the carbon monoxide poisoning prevention activities described in subsection (e).

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section, an eligible State is any State that—

(1) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Commission that the State has adopted a statute or a rule, regulation, or similar measure with the force and effect of law, requiring compliant carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in dwelling units in accordance with NFPA 72, the IFC, or the IRC; and

(2) submits an application to the Commission at such time, in such form, and containing such additional information as the Commission may require, which application may be filed on behalf of the State by the fire code enforcement officials for such State.

(c) GRANT AMOUNT.—The Commission shall determine the amount of the grants awarded under this section.

(d) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In selecting eligible States for the award of grants under this section, the Commission shall give favorable consideration to an eligible State that—

(1) requires the installation of compliant carbon monoxide alarms in new or existing educational facilities, childcare facilities, health care facilities, adult dependent care facilities, government buildings, restaurants, theaters, lodging establishments, or dwelling units—

(A) within which a fuel-burning appliance is installed, including a furnace, boiler, water heater, fireplace, or any other apparatus, appliance, or device that burns fuel; or

(B) which has an attached garage; and

(2) has developed a strategy to protect vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, or low-income households.

(e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible State receiving a grant under this section may use such grant—

(A) to purchase and install compliant carbon monoxide alarms in the dwelling units of low-income families or elderly persons, facilities that commonly serve children or the elderly, including childcare facilities, public schools, and senior centers, or student dwelling units owned by public universities;

(B) to train State or local fire code enforcement officials in the proper enforcement of State or local laws concerning compliant carbon monoxide alarms and the installation of such alarms in accordance with NFPA 72, the IFC, or the IRC;

(C) for the development and dissemination of training materials, instructors, and any other costs related to the training sessions authorized by this subsection; and

(D) to educate the public about the risk associated with carbon monoxide as a poison and the importance of proper carbon monoxide alarm use.

(2) LIMITATIONS.

(A) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 10 percent of any grant amount received