

The Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth (STURDY) Act

Furniture or items on top of furniture, such as televisions, can fall onto a child if the unit is unstable. According to the Consumer Protection Safety Commission (CPSC), between 2000 and 2019, there were 571 reported fatalities associated with furniture tip-over incidents. 82 percent of those deaths involved children.¹ Currently, the stability standard for clothing storage units is voluntary, meaning companies are not required to ensure products are tested for safety and stability before being sold to consumers.

The STURDY Act would:

- Direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to develop mandatory standards for furniture safety, including chests, bureaus, drawers and dressers, which are a major category of furniture at risk of tipping over.
- Require rigorous testing measures, including:
 - Simulation of the weight of children up to 60 pounds;
 - Objective, repeatable and measurable tests that simulate real-world use, including carpeted floors, drawers with items inside, multiple open drawers and dynamic force;
 - Testing of all storage units, including those under 30 inches in height;
 - Warning requirements based on the most updated safety standards.

The STURDY Act, which passed the House of Representatives in September 2019, received overwhelming bipartisan support. Senators Casey, Klobuchar and Blumenthal, as well as Representative Schakowsky, will reintroduce this important legislation this Congress. It is critical to provide parents the assurance that the furniture they buy is covered by strong product standards to help protect their children from furniture tip-overs. Congress must pass the STURDY Act to stop the hundreds of preventable injuries, and even deaths, that impact children and families across the country each year.

Cosponsors: Senators Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Cortez Masto, Booker, Warren, Markey, Smith, Shaheen, Durbin, Feinstein, Cotton, Baldwin, Van Hollen and Coons

Organizations in Support: Consumer Reports, Kids in Danger, Consumer Federation of America, Parents Against Tip-Overs, Public Citizen, American Academy of Pediatrics

¹ https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/2020_Tip_Over_Report.pdf?nhwAgmMt9YXGhkqfsN75hMCNYgBTe5OJ