



RETAIL INDUSTRY LEADERS ASSOCIATION

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May 11, 2022

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chair
Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC, 20510

Re: Stop Tip-Overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth (STURDY) Act (S.3232)

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker:

The Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA) urges the Senate Commerce Committee to advance the Stop Tip-Overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth (STURDY) Act (S.3232). We applaud the meaningful and ongoing dialogue between your offices and a diverse group of stakeholders, from consumer advocates to retailers and manufacturers, that produced the amended language that is now before the Committee. With these improvements, STURDY provides a clear roadmap for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to take formal regulatory action to ensure all new clothing storage furniture sold to U.S. consumers meets strengthened safety standards.

RILA's members are comprised of the largest U.S. national and regional retailers, some of which carry clothing storage furniture. The safety of their customers, particularly their youngest and most vulnerable customers, is paramount for leading retailers. Retailers typically do not manufacture the products they sell, but instead work diligently with their trusted suppliers to ensure that all products they sell meet or exceed applicable safety requirements, including voluntary standards. Setting clear requirements based on measurable and repeatable product safety testing methods, is the most effective way to keep customers safe. The STURDY Act helps deliver this clear objective.

Safety standards should evolve as lessons are learned from studies and accident reports and new testing methods and technologies become available. RILA echoes the support shared by a diverse cross-section of stakeholders for the amendments to STURDY's language requiring a rule that is incorporates forthcoming updates to the consensus-based standard being worked on by the ASTM furniture safety subcommittee. A forward-looking mandatory rule that is evidence-based, clear in scope, and provides for future innovation and new technologies will be instrumental in

preventing furniture tip-over tragedies. With these important improvements to the legislative text, RILA encourages swift action to pass the STURDY Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Kirsch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small mark above the 'i' in "Kirsch".

Susan Kirsch
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

