



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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CHAIR ALEXANDER D. HOEHN-SARIC

Statement of Chair Alex Hoehn-Saric Regarding Vote to Approve ASTM's Revised Safety Standard for High Chairs

April 21, 2022

Section 104 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act is also referred to as the “Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act,” named after a 16 month-old who died in a defective children’s product.

The law has led to essential strides forward in the safety of dozens of durable infant products, through multistakeholder developed standards lead by standards development organizations (SDOs) such as ASTM, which were ultimately reviewed by CPSC. Where a proposed voluntary standard is not sufficient, the CPSC should and has issued mandatory standards that are more stringent. Once a standard has been codified, the 104 process allows updating and modifying the standards by SDOs at a pace that is more rapid and regular than the Commission alone could accomplish given its limited resources. Under Danny’s Law, when the Commission receives an update on a covered durable infant product from an SDO it is our responsibility to analyze each set of changes, and accept them if they increase safety of the product. If an update does not improve the safety of the product – as CPSC found with the 2019 update to the high chair standard - we should reject it.

CPSC’s career scientific and engineering experts evaluated the most recent update to the ASTM high chair standard and submitted to the Commission a formal recommendation that the revision increases safety, and contains no elements that reduce safety. Relying on their subject matter expertise, and the Commission’s obligation under Danny’s Law, I have voted to approve the inclusion of these updates in the mandatory standard. Today’s vote means that the change of the standard will move forward and become mandatory at the end of the statutory 180-day notice period.