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09700HB4638ham001

LRB097 18907 KMW 68010 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4638

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 4638 on page 1,
3 immediately below line 1, by inserting the following:

4 "Section 1. Purpose. Research concludes that crib and
5 bassinet bumpers are dangerous. From 1985-2005, 27 accidental
6 deaths attributable to bumper pads were reported by medical
7 examiners or coroners. A report, published in a 2007 issue of a
8 prominent pediatric journal, concludes that the data does not
9 suggest any way in which changes in bumper design can reduce
10 the risk of death.

11 According to an investigative report conducted on the
12 expansion of recommendations for a safe infant sleeping
13 environment, in light of risks associated with sudden infant
14 death syndrome, cribs should meet safety standards of the
15 Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Juvenile Product
16 Manufacturers Association, and the ASTM International,
17 including those for slat spacing, snugly fitting and firm

1 mattresses, and no drop sides.

2 One of the most prominent national professional
3 organizations of pediatricians recommends the use of new cribs,
4 because older cribs might no longer meet current safety
5 standards, might have missing parts, or might be incorrectly
6 assembled. If an older crib is to be used, care must be taken
7 to ensure that there have been no recalls on the crib model,
8 that all of the hardware is intact, and that the assembly
9 instructions are available.

10 For some families, use of a crib might not be possible for
11 financial reasons or space considerations. In addition,
12 parents might be reluctant to place the infant in the crib
13 because of concerns that the crib is too large for the infant
14 or that "crib death" only occurs in cribs. Alternate sleep
15 surfaces, such as portable cribs, play yards, and bassinets
16 might be more acceptable for some families, because they are
17 smaller and more portable. Local organizations throughout the
18 United States can help to provide low-cost or free cribs or
19 play yards. If a portable crib, play yard, or bassinet is to be
20 used, it should meet the following CPSC guidelines: (i) sturdy
21 bottom and wide base; (ii) smooth surfaces without protruding
22 hardware; (iii) legs with locks to prevent folding while in
23 use; and (iv) firm, snugly fitting mattress.

24 In addition, other guidelines for safe sleep, including
25 supine positioning and avoidance of soft objects and loose
26 bedding, should be followed. Mattresses should be firm and

1 should maintain their shape even when the fitted sheet
2 designated for that model is used, such that there are no gaps
3 between the mattress and the side of the bassinet, playpen,
4 portable crib, or play yard.

5 Only mattresses designed for the specific product should be
6 used. Pillows or cushions should not be used as substitutes for
7 mattresses or in addition to a mattress. Any fabric on the
8 sides or a canopy should be taut and firmly attached to the
9 frame so as not to create a suffocation risk for the infant.
10 Portable cribs, play yards, and bassinets with vertical sides
11 made of air-permeable material may be preferable to those with
12 air-impermeable sides.

13 Finally, parents and caregivers should adhere to the
14 manufacturer's guidelines regarding maximum weight of infants
15 using these products. If the product is a combination product,
16 the manual should be consulted when the mode of use is changed.

17 Bedding is used in infant sleep environments for comfort
18 and safety. Parents and caregivers who perceive that infants
19 are uncomfortable on firm surfaces will often attempt to soften
20 the surface with blankets and pillows. Parents and caregivers
21 will also use pillows and blankets to create barriers to
22 prevent the infant from falling off the sleep surface or to
23 prevent injury if the infant hits the crib side. However, such
24 soft bedding can increase the potential of suffocation and
25 re-breathing. Pillows, quilts, comforters, sheepskins, and
26 other soft surfaces are hazardous when placed under the infant

1 or left loose in the infant's sleep area and can increase SIDS
2 risk up to 5-fold independent of sleep position. Several
3 reports have also described that in many SIDS cases, the heads
4 of the infants, including some infants who slept supine, were
5 covered by loose bedding. It should be noted that the risk of
6 SIDS increases 21-fold when the infant is placed prone with
7 soft bedding. In addition, soft and loose bedding have both
8 been associated with accidental suffocation deaths. The CPSC
9 has reported that the majority of sleep-related infant deaths
10 in its database are attributable to suffocation involving
11 pillows, quilts, and extra bedding. It is therefore recommended
12 that infants sleep on a firm surface without any soft or loose
13 bedding. Pillows, quilts, and comforters should never be in the
14 infant's sleep environment. Specifically, these items should
15 not be placed loose near the infant, between the mattress and
16 the sheet, or under the infant. Infant sleep clothing that is
17 designed to keep the infant warm without the possible hazard of
18 head covering or entrapment can be used in place of blankets;
19 however, care must be taken to select appropriately sized
20 clothing and to avoid overheating. If a blanket is used, it
21 should be thin and tucked under the mattress so as to avoid
22 head or face covering. These practices should also be modeled
23 in hospital settings.

24 It is the purpose of this legislation to conform to the
25 safety and precautionary standards established by the American
26 Academy of Pediatrics as of December 28, 2011, and it should be

1 interpreted thusly."; and

2 on page 1, immediately below line 7, by inserting the
3 following:

4 "(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds and declares that
5 bumper pads are unsafe for use in cribs. Bumper pads increase
6 the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accidental
7 suffocation and strangulation deaths in infants, as well as
8 non-fatal injuries such as contusions. While the use of bumper
9 pads prevents only minor injuries, the significant risks from
10 using bumper pads outweigh the possible benefits provided by
11 crib bumper pads."; and

12 on page 1, line 8, by replacing "(a)" with "(b)"; and

13 on page 1, line 16, by replacing "(b)" with "(c)"; and

14 on page 1, line 19, by replacing "(c)" with "(d)".