UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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COMMISSIONER MARY T. BOYLE

COMMISSIONER MARY T. BOYLE STATEMENT ON VOTE TO ADVANCE PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON NURSING PILLOWS

September 11, 2023

Today the Commission voted unanimously to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to set performance requirements for nursing pillows.

The Commission has long warned against the use of pillow-like infant products, including a specific warning in 2020 about nursing pillows. At that time, the agency announced it was investigating the entire class of products, stressing that when infants fall asleep or are left unattended on nursing pillows, they are at risk for death or serious injury.

Nearly three years have elapsed since that warning. Although I certainly would have preferred to see action much earlier, I welcome the fact that we are now considering regulatory options to help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries associated with these products.

I believe the proposal recognizes the utility of nursing pillows, while also underscoring that when it comes to our most vulnerable consumers, safety must remain paramount. Striking the right balance between those sometimes competing concerns can be difficult, but I am optimistic that we are moving in that direction—ensuring useful products are also safe.

I look forward to reviewing comments from the public on this proposal.