

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4996**

Introduced by **Representative “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

**AN ACT TO PROMULGATE A CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD FOR
EACH DURABLE INFANT OR TODDLER PRODUCT**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The leading cause of death among children is unintentional injuries. In the United States alone, a number of death and injuries suffered by children ranging the age of 5 and below are associated with unsafe nursery products which includes but not limited to baby cribs, strollers and other related products. In our country, we lack the legislative measure in order to ensure the safety of toddlers and infants from these products-related incidents.

The purpose of this bill is to mandate the Department of Trade and Industry to promulgate consumer product safety standard and measures that will ensure the protection of the infants and toddlers from products that do not observe safety standards.

In view thereof, the early passage of this proposed measure is highly recommended.

“KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
*Representative
First District of Bulacan*



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Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Infant and Toddler Durable Product Safety Act.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the safety of infants and toddlers from products which are manufactured and distributed for them.

SECTION 3. Purpose - The purpose of this Act is to prevent dangerous children's products from getting to the market, by requiring independent testing of all durable infant and toddler products before they enter commerce

SECTION 4. Definition of Terms. - *For purposes of this Act the term -*

A. "Durable Infant or Toddler Product" means a durable product intended for use, or that may be reasonably expected to be used, by children under the age of five years, and includes:

1. full-size cribs and non-full-size cribs;
2. toddler beds;
3. high chairs, booster chairs, and hook-on chairs,
4. bath seats
5. gates and other enclosures for confining a child;
6. play yards,
7. infant carriers strollers;
8. walkers,
9. swings, and
10. bassinets and cradles.

B. "Panel" means the Infant and Toddler Product Review Panel established under Section 8.

SECTION 5. Consumer Product Safety Standards for Durable Infant and Toddler Products. - The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall promulgate a consumer product safety standard for each durable infant or toddler product.

A. for at least seven durable infant or toddler products every two calendar years beginning after the date of the effectivity of this Act, and

B. for all existing durable infant or toddler products by not later than December 31, 2019

SECTION 6. Consultation with Panel- DTI shall promulgate any consumer product safety standard under this section for a durable infant or toddler product in consultation with the Panel and after considering the results of a review by such panel of any existing guidelines for that product.

SECTION 7. Durable Infant and Toddler Product Compliance Certification. - DTI shall by rule require that testing and certification for a durable infant or toddler product shall be performed by an independent third party and require the use, and prescribe the form and content of a label, including a seal which states that the product has passed such testing and certification DTI shall delegate to the Panel the authority to prescribe a seal that shall be used, under the labeling requirements under this Section, for infant or toddler products that are certified to comply with applicable consumer product safety standards promulgated under this Act.

SECTION 8. Infant and Toddler Product Review Panel. - The Department of Trade and Industry shall establish an Infant and Toddler Product Review Panel (Panel) to advise the Department of Trade and Industry regarding the implementation of this

Act. The Panel shall review and report to DTI regarding the existing guidelines for durable infant or toddler products and advise DTI regarding the promulgation of consumer product safety standards under this Act.

SECTION 9. Composition of the Panel. - The Panel shall be comprised of

- A. One representative from the juvenile product manufacturers industry.
- B. One representative from the consumer groups.
- C. One representative from independent child product engineers and experts;
- D. Five consumer product safety engineers to be appointed by DTI.

SECTION 10. Appropriations - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of DTI under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its full implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a distinct and separate item.

SECTION 11. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 12. Repealing Clause - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 13. Effectivity Clause - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation

Approved,

