

# Support the STURDY Act (H.R.1314/S.441)

## End the Furniture Tip-Over Epidemic

A tip-over can involve a piece of furniture, often a dresser or other type of clothing storage unit, falling onto a small child. These dangerous episodes can lead to a trip to the emergency room, or even death. The **Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth Act**, or **STURDY Act**, would require the CPSC to create a mandatory rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over incidents.



**A Child is Sent to the Emergency Room Because of a Tip-over Incident Every 60 Minutes, and on Average, 1 to 2 Children Die Every Month.**

**The STURDY Act will help prevent the deaths of children from tip-overs.**

### *Could a tip-over really happen to my child?*

The children on the back of this sheet are eight of the dozens of children killed each year from tip-overs. Children age 2 to 5 are at the highest risk – their motor abilities allow them to navigate the home by themselves and their intellectual development makes them curious about objects that might be out of reach.

### *Is there a standard now and why isn't it enough?*

The voluntary standard for dressers tests whether a dresser or drawer will tip with 50 lbs. hanging from an open drawer. This has not proven stringent enough to reduce tip-overs. It also only applies to dressers over 27 inches. Dressers do not have to meet this voluntary standard, even as weak as it is. The STURDY Act will:

- Mandate testing on all clothing units
- Require testing to simulate the weights of children up to 72 months old
- Require testing measures to account for scenarios involving carpeting, loaded drawers, and the dynamic force of a climbing child
- Mandate strong warning requirements
- Require the CPSC to issue the mandatory standard within 1 year of the STURDY Act's enactment

### *What can I do to protect children?*

Call your Congressperson and Senators and tell them to cosponsor and support the STURDY Act. In the meantime, anchor all dressers to the wall or the floor. Go to [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) to check if your dressers and other furniture items have been recalled and learn more at [www.anchorit.gov](http://www.anchorit.gov).



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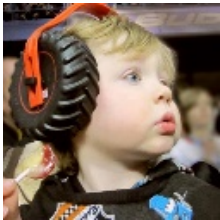
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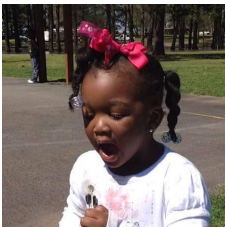
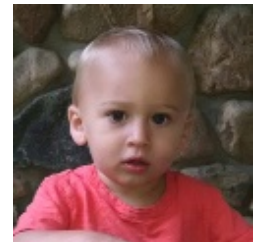
This is Camden. Camden was suffocated under his 31" bedroom dresser in Washington state. The dresser was chosen for its small size but was still unstable and heavy enough to kill him. He was two years old.

This is Conner. He was found trapped underneath his bedroom dresser in Florida on Mother's Day morning and died the next evening. The dresser that killed him met the voluntary safety standards for furniture. He was two years old.



This is Shane. He was a beloved and energetic two-year-old. After being put down for a nap, he was found dead while trapped under an overturned dresser in his bedroom in Illinois.

This is Ted. On Valentine's Day in 2016 in Minnesota, Ted was crushed under a dresser while his mother thought he was taking a nap. He was not yet two years old.



This is Chance. She lost her life to a TV/furniture tip-over, with her older brother in the same room in Arkansas. She was two and a half years old.

This is Charlie. He was killed when he tried to climb the 30" dresser in his bedroom in Missouri, when his family thought he was napping. He was two years old.



This is Harper. She was playing in her bedroom in New York when her parents believe she began climbing or hanging from one of her dresser drawers. The dresser fell on her and caused her death. She was 3 years old.

This is Meghan. She was killed when her 30" dresser fell on her during the night while her family was asleep, one week before Christmas, in Massachussets. She was 3 years old.

