



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Announces Critical Warning to Parents about Leachco Infant Loungers

Statement of Kids In Danger and Consumer Federation of America

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Today, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) announced a critically important warning about infant loungers manufactured by Leachco, Inc: the Podster Plush, Bummzie, and Podster Playtime. The CPSC also shared information about the two known deaths associated with this product. This [announcement](#) is alarming. We urge families who have these loungers to immediately stop using these products. These potentially dangerous products must be removed from homes, childcare facilities, and the second-hand market.

Newborns and infants sleep safest on flat surfaces, in products tested and sold specifically for sleep such as cribs, bassinets and play yards. Whenever a baby falls asleep in a non-sleep product, caregivers should move them as soon as possible and place them in a safe sleep product. While the infant lounger company may have warned about sleep, the intuitive use for a newborn lying on a lounger is to let them continue to sleep on it. Supervision, even close supervision, while sleeping in an unsafe product is not enough. Positional asphyxiation can occur even as a baby appears to be sleeping.

The new [Infant Sleep Product Rule](#) proposed by the CPSC will ensure that products sold for sleep are safe for unattended sleep for infants. Currently, too many products make their way onto the market that can appear to be for sleep, but do not provide a safe sleep environment. We urge Leachco to agree to recall these potentially hazardous products and work aggressively to reach all users of this product.

For more information on safe sleep, go to [KID's page](#) or the CPSC's [safe sleep information page](#).

Founded in 1998, [Kids In Danger \(KID\)](#) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by fighting for product safety. KID's mission is to save lives by enhancing transparency and accountability through safer product development, better education and stronger advocacy for children. KID fulfills its mission by reaching out to caregivers to spread safety awareness and recall information, serving as a watchdog on regulatory agencies and manufacturers, and working with designers and engineers to make safety a top priority. KID analyzes recalled and hazardous children's products and publishes reports for public education with recommendations for policy makers.

The [Consumer Federation of America \(CFA\)](#) is an association of non-profit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education. Today, nearly 250 of these groups participate in the federation and govern it through their representatives

on the organization's Board of Directors. As a research organization, CFA investigates consumer issues, behavior, and attitudes and publishes these findings in reports that assist consumer advocates and policymakers as well as individual consumers. As an advocacy organization, CFA works to advance pro-consumer policies on a variety of issues before Congress, the White House, federal and state regulatory agencies, state legislatures, and the courts. As an educational organization, CFA disseminates information on consumer issues to the public and news media, as well as to policymakers and other public interest advocates. CFA's consumer protection work is based upon the premise that consumers deserve a marketplace characterized by fair treatment and services and safe products.