



**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MD 20814**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ELLIOT F. KAYE AND ACTING CHAIRMAN ROBERT S. ADLER
ON ASTM'S REVISIONS TO THE SAFETY STANDARD FOR HAND-HELD INFANT CARRIERS**

May 4, 2020

On April 24, 2020, the Commission unanimously voted to issue a direct final rule revising the Commission's mandatory rule for hand-held infant carriers at 16 C.F.R. part 1225 to incorporate by reference the most recent version of the applicable ASTM standard. Under the law, a revised voluntary standard will become a mandatory standard effective 180 days after the date on which the voluntary standard organization notifies the Commission of the revision, unless the Commission notifies the organization that it has determined that the revision does not improve the safety of the consumer product covered by the standard. 15 U.S.C. § 2056a.

On February 5, 2020, ASTM notified the Commission of several changes to its voluntary standard for hand-held infant carriers that were made in February 2016 and December 2019. Notably, one of the 2016 changes exempted hand-held bassinets/cradles, a subcategory of hand-held infant carriers that includes products such as flat bassinet attachments for strollers and so-called Moses baskets, from displaying a "NEVER leave child unattended" warning message. CPSC staff concluded that this change was safety-neutral because "it is targeted at bassinets and cradles that are intended for sleep."

Although we voted for the direct final rule that incorporates this warning label exemption for hand-held bassinets/cradles, we write to make clear that we do not believe that all hand-held bassinets or cradles are necessarily safe for sleep, and that this rule should not be interpreted as such. Some hand-held bassinets/cradles that may be intended or marketed for infant sleep such as Moses baskets are not subject to a mandatory or voluntary standard specifically targeted at ensuring they are in fact *safe* for sleep. This is a problem that needs a holistic solution. It is our hope that ASTM and

the CPSC staff will soon address these shortcomings by continuing their ongoing work on a mandatory standard for *all* infant sleep products.