**H.R. 3172- Advocate’s Guide**

*H.R. 3172, the Safe Sleep for Babies Act, passed the House and is now in Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, which Senator Blunt sits on. We are reaching out to his office to ask him to get a hearing on this bill in that committee. The more folks that do this, the more likely it is that he acts. Below, you will find an email and phone template for you to use. Anything in parentheses are placeholders for you to enter information specific to you. Please email Abby Buckhouse (**abuckhouse@generatehealthstl.org**) once you have reached out so we are able to track numbers. Please also reach out if you have questions or would like more information. Thank you for being a fantastic advocate for Safe Sleep!*

**Email:**

Senator Blunt,

My name is (name) and I live in (city), Missouri. (insert background related to the issue- job, parent, aunt, uncle, action team member, etc.). The House recently passed H.R. 3172, the Safe Sleep for Babies Act, banning crib bumper pads and incline sleepers from being sold, manufactured, or distributed. This bill has been referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, which you sit on.

In 2017, Missouri lost 94 babies to sleep related deaths. Unsafe sleep products cause infant deaths every year, and yet they are still available on the market. Crib bumper pads are a suffocation risk for babies and sleeping in an inclined position puts babies at risk for throat closure, cutting off their oxygen supply. Simply banning these products from being distributed, manufactured, or sold would save lives, and passing H.R. 3172 will implement that ban. Most sleep related deaths are preventable, and it takes all of us to do whatever we can to save our babies.

(Personal story, anecdote, or other info you would like to include)

I am asking you to support this legislation. The next step is for the bill to be heard, and I am urging you to request a hearing on this bill in the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and support this bill through the process. The Safe Sleep for Babies Act will save babies in Missouri every year. Thank you for your work on this legislation.

Thank you,

Name

Address

Contact info

**Phone call:**

Hi! I am calling about H.R. 3172, the Safe Sleep for Babies Act that was recently referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, which Senator Blunt sits on.

(They may send you to someone else who works on this issue)

My name is (name) and I live in (city) Missouri.

The Safe Sleep for Babies Act, banning crib bumper pads and incline sleepers from being sold, distributed, or manufactured, is important in reducing the number of sleep related deaths in Missouri, and across the country. I care about this issue because (insert background).

Missouri lost 94 babies to sleep related deaths in 2017. Unsafe sleep products cause infant death every year, and yet they are still available on the market. We need to remove crib bumper pads and incline sleepers, two products that put babies at risk, from the market to save our babies.

(Personal story, anecdote, or other info)

I am asking you to support this legislation in the process of becoming law. The next step is to get a hearing in the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Is your office able to do this?

(Push for an answer. They may say they have no control over hearings, which is not true. The Senator can work with the committee chair, Senator Wicker, to get it heard. If you get a maybe, ask when you can follow up, or if there is more information you can provide to make it a yes)

Thank you for your support!