#### RICHARD BLUMENTHAL CONNECTICUT

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AGING

United States Senate

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April 25, 2024

Ms. Tara Williams **Dreamland Baby** 3338 Deer Hollow Drive Danville, CA 94506

Dear Ms. Williams,

I am deeply disappointed by your company's refusal to engage meaningfully with my office to discuss critical safety concerns concerning your weighted sleep products. As I mentioned in my letter of December 6, 2023, I am alarmed by the lack of independent research into the safety of weighted sleep products for infants and the misleading claims your company has made to attract vulnerable and unsuspecting parents and caregivers. It is imperative that you listen to health and safety experts, including the American Academy of Pediatrics,<sup>2</sup> the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,<sup>3</sup> the National Institutes of Health,<sup>4</sup> and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. All of them have recommended against the use of weighted sleep products.

While your company has taken steps to commission a more comprehensive study on the use of weighted sleep sacks,<sup>5</sup> the outcome of this research will take time and any results will need to be independently verified to ensure it is free from bias or conflict of interest. An apparent lack of adverse events is not enough to refute an organization whose sole mission is to attain optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. This point is especially important given the increasing and ongoing number of

<sup>1&</sup>quot;Blumenthal Raises Serious Concerns over Weighted Sleep Sacks & Swaddles for Infants. (Dec 6, 2023) https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/blumenthal-raises-serious-concerns-over-weighted-sleep-sacks-andswaddles-for-infants

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Letter to the Consumer Product Safety Commission from the American Academy of Pediatrics, (Jun 15, 2023). https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/23849624-aap-letter-61523

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Helping Babies Sleep Safely." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Sep 29, 2023). https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/features/baby-safe-sleep/index.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Safe To Sleep." National Institutes of Health Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. (Accessed Mar 13, 2024) https://safetosleep.nichd.nih.gov/reduce-risk/FAQ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Do you want to be involved in a sleep study with your infant?" Dreamland Baby. (Accessed Mar 13, 2024). https://dreamlandbabyco.com/pages/clinical-trial

reviews from parents and caregivers reporting a change in their child's breathing or heart rate when wearing your weighted sleep product.<sup>6</sup>

As a result of my initial inquiry, your company removed safety claims from your website, including the statements that your product "[exceeded] all CPSC standards" and that it was "the world's first safety certified weighted blanket designed for infants." As you know, there are no federal standards for weighted sleep products and those statements were misleading. While I appreciate your company's efforts, they do not change the fact that thousands of parents and caregivers purchased, and continue to use, your product based on those claims. Of particular concern, your website claimed that Dreamland Baby held multiple partnerships with hospitals across the country using weighted sleep sacks and swaddles in their Neonatal Intensive Care Units. However, when I asked for details about these partnerships, you declined to respond and removed the listed hospitals from your website.<sup>8</sup> This lack of transparency is deeply troubling.

Potentially harmful products targeting vulnerable consumers, including parents, caretakers, and infants, cannot go unchecked. We've made this mistake before, specifically with the Fisher-Price Rock 'n Play Sleeper, an inclined sleep product that became widely popular. Parents were led to believe the product was safe, even as the product was associated with at least one hundred infant deaths. Today, we can prevent similar tragedies by being proactive in scrutinizing product safety rather than permit a preventable tragedy.

Dreamland Baby must meaningfully understand the impact of your products on infant health and safety. To this end, I am demanding answers to the questions posed in my December 6 letter and urge you to make important and prompt safety updates to your website.

Given your company's deceptive and misleading practices, please be advised that I am calling on the Federal Trade Commission to investigate.

Sincerely,

Richard Blumenthal United States Senate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Appendix A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Appendix B

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Appendix C

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Fisher-Price Rock n' Play Sleeper Recall Letter. (Feb 24, 2023). https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/22423fisherpricerocknplaysleeperrecallletter.pdf

### Appendix A

- Review on Amazon: Pass https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JWBBBSL/R7X85ZGCTC891
- 2. Review on Amazon: Wouldn't recommend https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JW8S7V4/R3L90I4LE5N3B4
- 3. Review on Amazon: My son hated it <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT69XTJG/R3LKVVBHRZIRUN">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT69XTJG/R3LKVVBHRZIRUN</a>
- 4. Review on Amazon: Very disappointed https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/R3OMC9HM8NUOUC
- Review on Amazon: It did not help my kid https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0B22Y8CPQ/R1QQT0OXHHL694
- 6. Review on Amazon: Suffocation Hazard <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/RLDZSJX4JGUL1">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/RLDZSJX4JGUL1</a>
- Review on Amazon: Too heavy for my 2.5 year old https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0B1S9G1B6/RMBOKP3YKYPDO
- 8. Review on Amazon: Dangerous https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JWBBBSL/R1YIN1AY9YKTT0
- Review on Amazon: Dangerous
   https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B08YS5GXCY/R2CG8X7DQM3FRR
- 10. Review on Amazon: Breathing problems https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JWBBBSL/R1RBKOXCD9PIPH
- 11. Review on Amazon: Don't waste your money https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JWBBBSL/R3FDR6EARA5T3K
- 12. Review on Amazon: Chocking hazard <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/R38Z4YSYLURNNF">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/R38Z4YSYLURNNF</a>
- 13. Review on Amazon: Safety issue? https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0B75TC61J/R24I9GELPY08IW
- 14. Review on Amazon: Don't get it <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/R2BOPN4ZJM88PS">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09BDCY32X/R2BOPN4ZJM88PS</a>
- Review on Amazon: Restrained baby https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B08YS5GXCY/R3CFV32VTKT9LA
- 16. Review on Amazon: Great in theory, but dangerous <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/808YS5GXCY/R1RX75CQ96LLRD">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/808YS5GXCY/R1RX75CQ96LLRD</a>
- Review on Amazon: Weighed baby down too much for a baby that can roll https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B08YS9VC39/R26LX2U3ZELBPV
- 18. Review on Amazon: Does not work period https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT4PK15G/R2E515K63RFT6B
- 19. Review on Amazon: Unsafe <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09KGN6XF7/RVSPXN406DLDC">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09KGN6XF7/RVSPXN406DLDC</a>
- 20. Review on Amazon: Tight on the neck <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT4PK15G/R3DA2Z910OVZ4I">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT4PK15G/R3DA2Z910OVZ4I</a>
- 21. Review on Amazon: Inaccurate TOG rating <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT4PK15G/R6CQ7QS45I6ME">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BT4PK15G/R6CQ7QS45I6ME</a>

22. Review on Amazon: Works ..for a little https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B09JW996Y4/R2QNIAA8GKD8CC

23. Review on Amazon: Not Happy <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BFG3W4NC/R2LGM6E590ECIF">https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/review/B0BFG3W4NC/R2LGM6E590ECIF</a>

#### Appendix B

CLINICAL STUDY

#### Safe & Calming

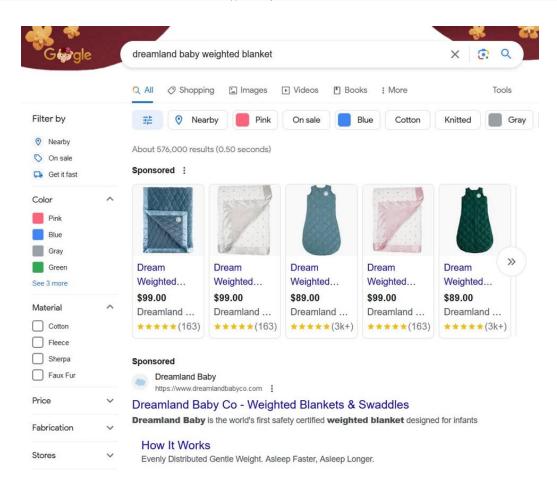
This  $\underline{\text{study}}$  found wearable weighted blankets are safe and significantly calmed infants compared to when non-weighted blankets were used.

DEDICATION TO SAFETY

#### We've proudly exceeded all United States Consumer Product Safety Commission Standards

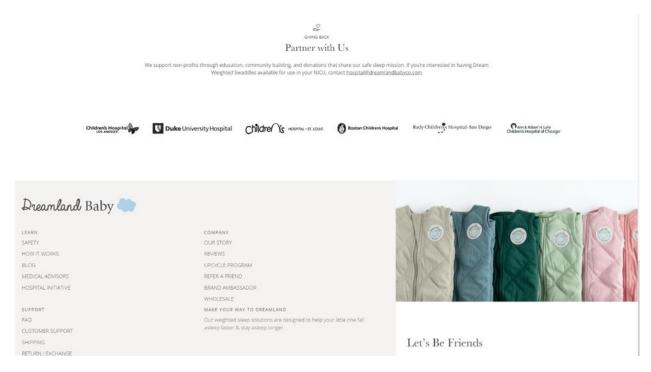
We use 100% natural, soft cotton. Our fabrics are not treated with flame retardant and the inner poly pellet beads are nontoxic. We source only the best materials for ultimate comfort and safety.

#### Rigorously Tested



# Appendix C

#### October 2023:



## February 2024:

decreased and Finnegan scores decreased. Read the full publication here.

GIVING BACK

Partner with Us

We support non-profits through education, community building, and donations that share our safe sleep mission. If you're interested in having Dream Weighted Swaddles available for use in your NICU, contact <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/journal