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Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 12:34 PM
To: licensinglistserv@virginiainteractive.org
Subject: New CPSC Crib Safety Standards Memo

This file is being sent to providers of child day care center, family day home, family day system home, religious exempt child day center, children's residential facility from the Virginia Department of Social Services Email Distribution Service.

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2011

TO: Licensing Staff
Licensed Child Day Centers
Licensed Family Day Homes
Family Day System Homes
Religious Exempt Child Day Centers
Children's Residential Facilities

FROM: Lynne Williams, Director
Division of Licensing Programs

SUBJECT: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Approves New Crib Safety Standards

In December 2010, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) approved new *mandatory* federal standards for full-size and non-full-size baby cribs under Section 104(c) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

The *mandatory* federal crib standards will:

- (1) Stop the manufacture and sale of dangerous, traditional drop-side cribs;
- (2) Make mattress supports stronger;
- (3) Make crib hardware more durable; and
- (4) Make safety testing more rigorous.

The federal standards apply to all child day programs and children's residential programs in Virginia.

Effective June 28, 2011, all cribs *sold* will have to be manufactured to the new standards. According to the CPSC, all drop-side cribs, even ones with immobilizers, and most non-drop side cribs made prior to June 28, 2011 will not meet the new standards.

Although the new federal standards take effect June 28, 2011, the standards allow providers until December 28, 2012 to replace all cribs not meeting the new standards.

If you have a newer crib and are not sure if it will meet the new standards, you can contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-CPSC [(800) 638-2772].

Go to www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml11/11074.html to view the press release regarding the new standards.

You can also go to the CPSC's Crib Information Center Website at www.cpsc.gov/info/cribs/index.html.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your licensing inspector.

FAQ's

1. What is the new standard for cribs?

Beginning June 28, 2011, all cribs manufactured and sold (including resale) must comply with new and improved federal safety standards. The new rules, which apply to full-size and non full-size cribs, prohibit the manufacture or sale of traditional drop-side rail cribs, strengthen crib slats and mattress supports, improve the quality of hardware and require more rigorous testing. The details of the rule are available on the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) website at www.cpsc.gov/businfo/frnotices/fr11/cribfinal.pdf.

2. When will the new, safer cribs be available for purchase?

Beginning on June 28, 2011, all cribs sold in the United States must meet the new federal requirements. After that date, it will be illegal to manufacture, sell, contract to sell or resell, lease, sublet, offer, provide for use, or otherwise place in the stream of commerce a crib that does not comply with the CPSC's new standards for full-size and non-full-size cribs. This includes manufacturers, retail stores, Internet retailers, resale shops, auction sites and consumers.

3. What if a child care provider needs to purchase a new crib prior to June 28, 2011?

Some compliant cribs may be available before the required date. However, the child care provider will not be able tell if the crib is compliant by looking at the crib. To ensure that the crib meets the new standards, the child care provider must:

- a) Verify that the crib was manufactured after July 1, 2010. There will be a label on the crib that indicates the manufacture date; and
- b) Obtain from the manufacturer a Certificate of Compliance indicating the crib meets the new federal standards.

No cribs manufactured prior to July 1, 2010 are known to be compliant with the new federal safety standards.

4. Is this new regulation simply a ban on all drop-side rail cribs?

No, these are sweeping new safety rules that will bring a safer generation of cribs to the marketplace in 2011. CPSC's new crib standards address many factors related to crib safety in addition to the drop-side rail. A crib's mattress support, slats, and hardware are now required to be more durable and manufacturers will have to test to the new more stringent requirements to prove compliance.

For further information, please consult the CPSC website at:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/onsafety/2011/03/the-new-crib-standard-questions-and-answers/>

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