

Burn Risk Prompts 13,000-Item Recall of Amazon-Exclusive Children's Nightgowns



GETTY

A new product recall affects thousands of nightgowns designed for children.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), 13,000 kids' sleepwear items exclusively sold on Amazon by Chinese company iMOONZZZ "fail to meet the flammability standards for children's sleepwear, posing a risk of burn injuries to children."

iMOONZZZ, which doesn't appear to have operated anywhere in U.S. besides Amazon, has a basic website with a recall landing page instructing customers on how to get their money back. An Instagram account for the brand doesn't appear to be operational.

CPSC identified four styles sold from March

through June that fell short of federal safety guidelines around fire risk. Manufactured in China, the styles include a long vintage soft cotton full-length nightdress, a full-length short-sleeve nightdress, a full-length mesh nightdress and a soft fleece long-sleeve sleepwear nightgown. The nightgowns were sold in sizes 3-4T, 5-6 years, 6-7 years, 7-8 years, 8-9 years and 10-12 years. The material matrix—printed on a sew-in, side-seam label—includes 100 percent cotton, and polyester, elastane and spandex blends.



THE RECALLED iMOONZZZ NIGHTGOWNS. U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

While no incidents or injuries have been reported, consumers are instructed to immediately take the garments away from children and contact iMOONZZZ for a full refund. To received a refund of \$20-\$29, the

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nightgowns must be cut in half and photo evidence of the destroyed product must be sent to the Chinese company.

This isn't the first time iMOONZZZ has run into compliance problems.

In June last year, about 2,000 units of the company's children's nightgowns were recalled for failing to meet federal flammability standards.

iMOONZZZ isn't currently available on Amazon.

Link

<https://sourcingjournal.com/topics/compliance/amazon-recall-13000-childrens-nightgowns-burn-risk-cpsc-imoonzzz-china-465747/>

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Senators Tell CBP to Step Up ‘Insufficient Enforcement’ Facilitating Forced-Labor Clothing Imports



CBP PERSONNEL INSPECT PRODUCT SHIPMENTS. **PATRICK T. FALLON / AFP** (PHOTO BY **PATRICK T. FALLON/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES**)

A bipartisan group of United States Senators on Monday called on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to increase oversight and enforcement to ensure Chinese companies aren't evading laws against forced labor.

The group, which includes Ron Wyden (D-Ore.); Bill Cassidy (R-La.); Tim Kaine (D-Va.); Thom Tillis (R-N.C.); Mark Warner (D-Va.); Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.); Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and Tim Scott (R-S.C.), urged acting CBP commissioner Troy Miller to enforce the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Those agreements empower the agency to conduct

supply chain oversight that includes visits to and audits of apparel factories.

The lawmakers pointed to the unfair advantage Chinese companies using forced labor have over U.S. counterparts making textiles and apparel, which they said has led to the loss of domestic jobs.

“Recent reports of textile and apparel mill closures in the United States raise serious concerns as the lack of effective customs enforcement has been cited repeatedly as a key factor contributing to declining demand,” they wrote.

The senators proposed several immediate steps to improve enforcement, including significantly increasing on-site and surprise verifications of textile facilities in CAFTA-DR and USMCA regions. They pointed to a decline in on-site trade preference verifications since 2018, when CBP staff dropped in on 139 factories versus just 38 last year. “These public statistics also suggest a decline in audits, laboratory analysis, and special enforcement operations,” they wrote.

Senators also asked CBP to provide technical assistance and information sharing with customs authorities in the regions to root out materials made with forced labor, while also improving targeting of illicit or fraudulent shipments by providing a Spanish language version of e-Allegation.

Senators also asked the CBP to conduct a comprehensive review of existing enforcement authorities and penalties for textiles and apparel. The agency should then create a strategic plan that outlines how it will maximize existing tools and resources to ensure full compliance with trade regulations.

“Insufficient enforcement can create a pathway for banned Xinjiang cotton to infiltrate regional supply chains and undermine efforts to enforce the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act,” the senators said. “For this reason, robust and consistent enforcement of the origin and content rules in U.S. trade agreements, along with the longstanding U.S. ban on products made with forced labor, is essential to securing this supply chain and guaranteeing workers, businesses, and consumers the benefits bargained for in CAFTA-DR and USMCA.”

China has come under fire for forced labor in Xinjiang where detained Uyghurs—a Turkic ethnic group—are held in internment camps where it is suspected they are forced to work in

numerous industries, including cotton and textile production. In 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act into law, which made it U.S. policy to assume that all goods linked to Xinjiang are produced with forced labor unless proven otherwise.

Multiple apparel companies have come under fire for allegedly selling goods with ties to Xinjiang, including Shein and Zara.

Link

<https://sourcingjournal.com/topics/labor/cbp-forced-labor-apparel-imports-usmca-cafta-dr-textile-apparel-factory-audits-467081/>

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California revives plan to overhaul Prop 65 short-form warnings

Long-awaited proposal could reignite debate over chemical-specific disclosures



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California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has reintroduced a controversial proposal to change substantively how short-form warnings are provided under Proposition 65.

The proposal "would provide more information to consumers and disincentivise unnecessary prophylactic warnings", according to OEHHA. If it is adopted, many companies may need to amend product labels to ensure they provide 'clear and reasonable' warnings for exposures to substances listed under the state's right-to-know scheme.

Announced on 27 October, the proposed rulemaking looks to revive a regulatory overhaul – first floated in early 2021 – aimed at modifying safe harbour warning methods for 'short-form' Prop 65 warnings. OEHHA intended for these truncated warnings to be used on small products. But they

became a popular alternative for complying with 2016 amendments to the state's scheme, in part because they did not require companies to name a specific substance being warned for.

Efforts to address this overuse of short-form warnings through rule amendments, meanwhile, met with fierce industry opposition. OEHHA revised the 2021 proposal twice, but eventually allowed it to lapse in May 2022 when the rulemaking reached the regulatory time limit for completion.

Regulators originally indicated plans to release a fresh proposal within a few weeks. That timeline, however, dragged on for over a year, until last week's announcement.

Latest proposal

In line with prior versions, the newly released proposal would require companies to specify at least one chemical on Prop 65 warnings.

The absence of such a requirement for short-form warnings resulted in their "overuse", including on large products and home appliances with space for full-length warnings, according to OEHHA. Moreover, some businesses use them "as a litigation avoidance strategy for exposures to listed chemicals that do not or cannot occur from use of their products", regulators said in an initial statement of reason (ISOR).

Pressing companies to identify a chemical exposure may prompt some to determine a warning is not required, the agency said. This will reduce both unnecessary warnings and consumer confusion over disclosures that lack a specified chemical.

The new proposal would give companies two years to transition to new warnings, rather than the one year of earlier versions.

The latest draft also leaves out a provision to limit short-form warnings to products of certain sizes and other controversial plans previously removed from the original 2021 version.

However, a large industry coalition has resolutely opposed any change that would compel thousands of companies to change their labels. So OEHHA's latest iteration is likely to see continued pushback.

Further changes

The proposal also floats more general changes for consumer product warnings, including:

- amendments to current font size requirements that OEHHA describes as "impractical";
- an allowance to include 'California' or 'CA' as a signal word before 'warning';
- confirmation that short-form warnings can be used on food products; and
- further clarification around how conspicuous warnings must be.

The proposal also looks to address confusion over when companies must provide online warnings and would add four new sections on "tailored safe harbour warnings" for exposures to motor vehicle and marine vessel parts.

Comments on the proposed rule are due on 20 December, with a public hearing scheduled for 13 December.

Link

<https://chemicalwatch.com/874516/california-revives-plan-to-overhaul-prop-65-short-form-warnings>

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