



November 26, 2014

### Help Make Law:

## Sudden Unexpected Death Data and Awareness Act (S.2746/H.R.669):

Each year in the United States, nearly 4,000 infants die suddenly of no obvious cause, according to the Centers for Disease Control. To a large degree, how the deaths happen is a mystery to researchers. These deaths fall under the broad category of Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUIDs).

Safe Kids has been working with other groups to pass the Sudden Unexpected Death Data Enhancement and Awareness Act (S.2746/H.R.669) which would create surveillance and autopsy protocols involving infants who die from unsafe sleep. Knowing the facts is critical to solving a public health problem. By better understanding the causes of SUIDs, we can better protect the lives of infants. This no-cost legislation would give the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) the authority to continue carrying out the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) activities related SUID.

### Legislative Status:

Working together, we have made great progress in passing this law. The House of Representatives passed the bill, HR 669, on September 9, 2014. The Senate passed a bill on November 20, 2014 but the language was different and this means that the House must pass it again. We must do that before the Congress adjourns its 113<sup>th</sup> term or we need to do this all over again. THAT'S WHY WE NEED YOU!

### How You Can Help:

Reaching out to your Senator may be daunting, especially if you have never participated in the political process before. Remember, they work for YOU and Senators and Congressman want to hear from their constituents. Below are some quick tips on what you can do to make the safe sleep bill law.

- **Tweet.** The power of social media is a great way to make your voice heard. With your zip code [it's easy to find your Member of Congress](#). Once you know your member's district name and number, you can go [here](#) for their twitter handle.
- **Sample.** A sample tweet is: "Please @repbarb 11 infants die each day from no obvious cause. Please pass S. 2746" Tweet @skwadvocate to tell everyone you did it.
- **Call.** Call your Representative's office, either their district or D.C. office, and ask to speak with the legislative aide who handles health issues. Tell him or her how important it is to pass the bill.

### AdvoFacts:

Here are more facts for powerful messages. For more information or ideas you can [go here](#).

- Sudden infant death is the leading cause of death among infants one month to one year.
- African American children have a 2 times greater risk of dying from crib death.
- Infants who sleep on their stomachs have a 5 times greater risk.
- Accidental suffocation or strangulation claims more than 600 infant lives each year.

### Contact Us:

If you have any questions, please contact Anthony Green at Safe Kids Worldwide, 202.662.0606, [agreen@safekids.org](mailto:agreen@safekids.org) or Ambar Canales, 202.662.4471, [acanales@safekids.org](mailto:acanales@safekids.org)

