ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

Douse of Representatives COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE 2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115 Majority (202) 225-3641 Minority (202) 225-2927

August 17, 2023

Mr. Mark Zuckerberg Chief Executive Officer Meta Platforms 1 Hacker Way Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Mr. Zuckerberg:

The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is tasked with keeping the public safe from consumer products that pose an unreasonable risk of injury or death.¹ In addition to its own work, the CPSC relies on online marketplaces, like Meta, to keep consumers safe by preventing the posting for sale of products that are known to be dangerous. It is our understanding that Meta has been falling short on this mission.

We are aware that, since the beginning of 2022, the CPSC has sent you [Meta] at least three letters and thousands of takedown requests, related to banned and recalled hazardous products that are available for sale on Meta platforms.² Of note, these products include the Fisher Price Rock 'n Play, an inclined infant sleeper associated with approximately 100 infant deaths and recalled in 2019, and a prominent infant newborn lounger associated with infant deaths and recalled in 2021.³ CPSC staff has also found that the Boppy Newborn Lounger, which was recalled in 2021, is also still for sale on your platform. CPSC has formally requested an average of about one thousand take down requests a month for this product.⁴ To date, the volume of takedown requests has not slowed, and CPSC staff is unaware of any proactive measures Meta has taken to prevent these postings in the future.⁵

public/CPSC%20to%20Meta%20Letter%2007_13_22.pdf; Letter from Hon. Alex D. Hoehn-Saric, Chair, U.S. Cons. Prod. Safety Comm'n, to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO, Meta Platforms (April 12, 2023),

¹ See 15 U.S.C. §§ 2051–89.

² See Letter from Hon. Alex D. Hoehn-Saric, Chair, U.S. Cons. Prod. Safety Comm'n, to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO, Meta Platforms (July 13, 2022), https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-

https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Letter-to-Meta-CEO-from-CPSC-Chair-Hoehn-Saric.pdf; Letter from U.S. Cons. Prod. Safety Comm'rs, to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO, Meta Platforms (June 6, 2023), https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Letter-to-Meta-CEO-Zuckerberg-from-CPSC-Commissioners_2.pdf.

³ Letter from U.S. Cons. Prod. Safety Comm'rs, to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO, Meta Platforms (June 6, 2023), https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Letter-to-Meta-CEO-Zuckerberg-from-CPSC-Commissioners_2.pdf. ⁴ *Id*.

⁵ *Id*.

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Meta's failure to prevent recalled products from being posted for sale on its platform has resulted in your users and their children being placed at risk of purchasing and using a product that CPSC has found to pose a serious risk of injury and potential death.⁶ So that we may determine the best next steps that the Committee can take to protect American families from unsafe products being sold on your platforms, please provide the Committee with answers to the following questions:

- 1. What systems do you have in place to ensure recalled products that the CPSC has determined pose a serious risk of injury and potential death are not able to be posted to your marketplace?
- 2. Do you have a compliance staff dedicated to consumer product safety issues?
 - a. If so, how many full and or part time staff are on that team?
 - b. What actions do you take to monitor CPSC recalls?
- 3. What actions will you take to ensure that the Fisher Price Rock 'n Play, Boppy Newborn Lounger, and similarly designed and/or other recalled products are not available on your platform moving forward?
- 4. Are there statutory issues that are creating a gray area where it is unclear what the platform's responsibilities are?
- 5. Will you commit to working with the Committee to find a solution to this, to ensure that CPSC's resources are not wasted on sending thousands of takedown requests for products that pose a known hazard and are for sale on your marketplace?

Please produce this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 31, 2023. Please contact the Committee staff at (202) 225-3641.

Regards,

Cathy McMorris Rodgers Chair Committee on Energy and Commerce

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Frank Pallone, Jr. Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Commerce

⁶ *Id.*; Between February 7, 2022, and March 7, 2023, CPSC staff issued 3,981 takedown requests for the Fischer Price Rock 'n Play, which was recalled in 2019.

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Gus M. Bilirakis Chairman Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce

Jen Schelmaky

Jan Schakowsky Ranking Member Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce