



United States  
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20207

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 6, 2008

TO : HSHS

Through: Todd A. Stevenson, Secretary, OS 

FROM : Martha A. Kosh, OS 

SUBJECT: Infant Cushions/Pillow NPR

ATTACHED ARE COMMENTS ON THE CH 09-1

<u>COMMENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIGNED BY</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
CH 09-1-1	09/04/08	Jane Kershaw Coordinator of Lactation Services	Women's Hospital at Centennial Medical Center Nashville, TN 37203
CH 09-1-2	09/05/08	Judy Hatch	<u>judyhatch@samnet.net</u>
CH 09-1-3	09/05/08	Sally Wodicka	<u>swodicka@communitymemorial.com</u>
CH 09-1-4	09/05/08	Bonnie Cable	Mt. Carmel Health Outpatient Lactation 5965 E. Broad St Suite 100B Columbus, OH 43213
CH 09-1-5	09/08/08	Carol McShane RN, IBCLC	Lakeland Lactation Center W3985 County Road NN Elkhorn, WI 53121
CH 09-1-6	09/16/08	Patricia Keister	<u>pkeister@wellspan.org</u>
CH 09-1-7	09/30/08	Jane Squires	928 North Street Martinsburg, WV 25401

**Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** Kershaw Jane [Jane.Kershaw@HCAHealthcare.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 04, 2008 6:48 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Subject:** Boston Billow Pillow

I am a lactation consultant - coordinator for one of the oldest outpatient centers, in existence for more than 20 years. Our patients brought to our attention the versatility and function of the Boston Billow Pillow a few years ago. We have stocked them in our NICU for several years and these are the ones preferred there also. The pillow is light, washable, and adjusts easily to all sizes of babies and all sorts of mom positions. We have had other pillows (several brands) that we have tried and found different problems with them. The Billow is the best in our opinion and that of our patients and customers. We are hoping to see this pillow come back on the market so others can have the great experience our mothers have had.

Jane Kershaw, BA, RN, IBCLC, RLC  
Coordinator of Lactation Services  
Women's Hospital at Centennial Medical Center  
Nashville, TN 37203

*Boston  
Billows  
Experiment*

**Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** Judy Hatch [judyhatch@samnet.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 05, 2008 8:17 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Subject:** boston billows

To whom it may concern:

I am so glad that the Boston Billow breastfeeding pillow will soon be available again. It is the most flexible, easy to use, fits women of all sizes, has many uses beyond the breastfeeding period, and reasonably priced for a superior product.

Judy Hatch, RN, MSN, IBCLE

*Boston  
Billows  
Stamp*

**Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** Sally Wodicka [swodicka@communitymemorial.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 05, 2008 3:21 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Cc:** ses@bostonbillows.com  
**Subject:** "Infant Cushions/Pillows NPR."

Well, hallelujah! Looks like the Boston Billow is on it's way back! An unwarranted removal has resulted in a lot of disappointed moms and Lactation Consultants. I have not sold another brand of nursing pillow because the Billow is so superior. Great for positioning, support, and flexibility. Please hurry!

Can't wait to put it back on my retail list!  
Most sincerely,

*Sally Wodicka, RN, IBCLC*  
Lactation Services  
Prenatal Education Coordinator  
The Birthing Center  
Community Memorial Hospital  
(262)257-5030

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**Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** Cable, Bonnie [bcable@mchs.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2008 4:22 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Cc:** ses@bostonbillows.com  
**Subject:** Infant Cushions/Pillows NPR

To Whom It May Concern:

I have worked with breastfeeding mothers and babies for nearly 30 years. I have seen and tried many, many nursing pillows. The Boston Billow Nursing Pillow is my all time favorite. It is an enormous help in positioning a baby comfortably at breast. We have used the Billow Pillow exclusively for 8 years in our outpatient lactation clinic and it is a wonderful asset.

Mothers do not use this pillow to put babies to sleep. It is used to help the mother support the baby's body during breastfeeding. Unlike other nursing pillows, it fits women of all sizes and shapes. The Billow's unique design allows it to sit comfortably around a woman who has given birth by cesarean. It is light weight and does not put undue pressure on a mother's incision.

I agree that regulations written to protect infant safety are of the utmost importance. This product is not intended for use as an infant sleep aid. It is used to help position and support a baby at breast while breastfeeding. I cannot for the life of me see how it could be unsafe.

Lactation consultants love the Billow Pillow!

**Bonnie Cable RN,IBCLC**

**Mt. Carmel Health Outpatient Lactation**

**5965 E. Broad St., Suite 100B**

**Columbus, OH 43213**

**614-234-8130**

**bcable@mchs.com**

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*Boston  
Billow***Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** carol.mcshane-street@aurora.org  
**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2008 3:31 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Subject:** Boston Billow Nursing Pillow  
**Importance:** High

Office of the Secretary at the Consumer Products Safety Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

I understand you are planning a rulemaking on the use and sale of the Boston Billow Nursing Pillow.

As a Board Certified Lactation Consultant I hope that you will approve this ruling in favor of the use of the Boston Billow Nursing Pillow for breastfeeding mothers. I am the head of a Lactation Center at in a rural WI hospital. We have a breastfeeding initiation rate of 85%. Virtually all mothers need to use a pillow of some type to support her arm during breastfeeding. It is vitally important to assure the comfort of the mother while nursing and we have found in the past that these pillows provide the needed arm support as well as fit around the waist of mothers of all sizes. If the mother is not comfortably positioned and the baby not correctly positioned at the breast, they are at risk for poor transfer of milk, sore nipples, back and shoulder strain and ultimately lactation failure. A nursing pillow helps to avoid these problems.

When the Boston Billow Nursing Pillow was not available, we had only one type of nursing pillow available for purchase in our area and could not recommend it to the majority of mothers because they are just too firm and unyielding to the mother's size. If the majority of women were only one size, any nursing pillow would meet their needs. Mothers need and deserve choices that meet their personal needs and currently the market is not offering viable choices for nursing support pillows. The filling in the Boston Billow Pillow offers much more flexibility than the most known and advertised nursing pillow on the market. Without that type of flexibility, the majority of mothers do not find a nursing pillow to be user friendly and resort to using soft pillows and blankets for support which are much less effective. We also have found that for mothers that have had a Cesarean delivery the fact that this pillow is so lightweight and flexible it works very well without making the mom more uncomfortable. The fact that the Boston Billow Pillow is lightweight makes it also a perfect choice for busy mothers on the go. It is the most portable pillow on the market and the most comfortable.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Carol A. McShane-Street, RN, IBCLC  
Lakeland Lactation Center  
W3985 County Road NN  
Elkhorn, WI 53121-1002  
(262) 741-2814  
carol.mcshane-street@aurora.org

9/9/2008

**Stevenson, Todd**

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*Don't  
Bullwink*

**From:** Keister, Patricia [pkeister@wellspan.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 16, 2008 8:00 AM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Subject:** infant cushions/pillowsnpr

I am a Lactation Consultant in a hospital - and we have used the Boston Billow for several years. It works much better for positioning and comfort of breastfeeding mothers than the other pillows on the market. We need to have this nursing support back on the market. Thank-you

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**Stevenson, Todd**

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**From:** Jane Squires [janedsquires@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2008 5:57 PM  
**To:** CPSC-OS  
**Subject:** Boston Billows

I have been a lactation specialist, and consultant for more than 30 years. When the Boston Billow came on the market I found it to be versatile, because it is light and washable, and adjusts easily to mothers and babies shapes for breastfeeding. When I was in private practice as a lactation consultant I sold only the Boston Billows, and no one ever complained. All "my moms" loved them. I hope to see this pillow back on the market. I work with pregnant woman and newborn infants. I would purchase them again for my breastfeeding mothers.

Sincerely

Jane Squires RN

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Jane Squires  
928 North street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401