



# Flame Retardant Ordinance and Juvenile Products Retailers



San Francisco has banned the sale of certain children’s products containing flame retardant chemicals. Here’s what retailers of children’s products need to know.

## Who must follow the new flame retardant ordinance?

This ordinance applies to any business or online retailer selling or distributing certain new juvenile products. “Juvenile product” refers to a new, not previously owned product designed for residential use by infants and children under 12 years of age.

## Why ban flame retardants in these products?

Flame retardants are not necessary for fire safety and numerous studies have linked exposure to flame retardant chemicals to hormone disruption, lower IQ, attention problems, reproductive issues, and cancer. Some of these chemicals can persist in the environment and accumulate in the bodies of people and animals.

## What products does this ordinance apply to?

bassinets	high chairs	infant seats	nursing pillows	strollers
booster seats	high chair pads	infant swings	playpen side pads	playards
changing pads	infant bouncers	infant walkers	children’s nap mats	
floor play mats	infant carriers	nursing pads	portable hook-on chairs	

## What products does this ordinance not cover?

This legislation does not cover the following juvenile products:

- Products that are not primarily intended for use in the home, such as products or components for motor vehicles, watercraft, aircraft, or other vehicles;
- Products subject to Title 49, Part 571 of the Code of Federal Regulations regarding parts and products used in vehicles and aircraft;
- Products required to meet federal flammability standards in Title 16, Parts 1632 or 1633 of the Code of Federal Regulations regarding mattress products;
- Products required to meet State flammability standards in California Technical Bulletin 133, entitled “Flammability Test Procedure for Seating Furniture for Use in Public Occupancies;”
- Used or second-hand juvenile products;
- New or used bedding, pillows, and mattresses;
- Outdoor furniture intended for outdoor use only.





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## What is the existing State furniture flammability law?

In 2013, California's Technical Bulletin 117-2013 exempted the 18 juvenile products listed above from having to meet any flammability standard. Some product manufacturers still use flame retardant chemicals in juvenile products even though these chemicals are no longer necessary.

## Does this ordinance apply to used or second-hand juvenile products?

No, this ordinance only applies to new juvenile products.

## When will the ordinance take effect?

For juvenile product categories listed above, this ordinance will take effect on **January 1, 2019**. For any juvenile product that has electronic components, the ordinance will take effect on **July 1, 2019**.

## What if I am not able to sell my inventory and it becomes an economic hardship for my business?

An establishment or other person may petition the Director of the Department of the Environment to receive additional time for compliance, where they can demonstrate that timely compliance shall cause severe hardship or is otherwise infeasible. Such petitions must be submitted in writing. The Department of the Environment will evaluate and then may grant or deny petitions, in whole or part, on a case-by-case basis. A petition that does not receive a response from the Department within 60 days from the date it is received by the Department shall be deemed granted.

## How much time do I have if I receive a violation?

An establishment will have 30 days from receipt of a warning to correct a violation.

## Where can I get more information?

### **SFEnvironment.org/FRordinance**

Por favor, llame a SF Environment al (415) 355-3700 para obtener más información sobre este tema.

請致電三藩市環境局 (415) 355-3700 獲取本主題相關資訊。

