



COURT SECRECY KILLS!

SB 1149 (Leyva) – The Public Right to Know Act will stop abusive secrecy and save lives!

Below are just a few examples of where overbroad orders and secrecy agreements hide information about dangers to the public.

It's time we protect the public, not secrets about manufacturers' defective products.

SECRECY KILLS AND MAIMS WOMEN

ESSURE: This birth control device implanted metal coils that shredded women's fallopian tubes, causing thousands of perforated tubes, hysterectomies, and painful intercourse. The FDA documented at least 23 deaths.

Secrecy: Over 900,000 documents are still under a secrecy order despite 27,000 lawsuits, which settled only when Public Justice intervened to make a few key documents public.



Kept secret for **12+ years**



YASMIN and ORTHO EVRA: These birth control products increased the risk of heart attack or stroke.

Secrecy: All information about these dangers was hidden under veil of court secrecy while women continued, unknowingly, to use the products.

Kept secret for who knows how long!

SECRECY KILLS KIDS

IKEA MALM DRESSERS: These popular dressers easily tipped over, posing a high risk of injury or death to children. The first reported child deaths were in 1989, but cases were still secretly settling for 20 years. IKEA has admitted that 299 tip-over incidents occurred causing serious injury and death to 144 children. IKEA halted sales in EU but continued them in US until they were finally recalled in 2017.

Secrecy: Everything remained shielded due to protective orders from public scrutiny until a 2018 EU investigation shed light.



Kept secret for **20+ years**

About **50 children** a year are killed by these seat back failures.

Source: Analysis on Behalf of Center for Auto Safety

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE INJURIES THAT CAN HAPPEN?



CAR SEATBACKS: Outdated 1968 government standards allow front car seatbacks to collapse backward, crushing babies and children in back seats causing death, paralysis, or brain injuries upon rear-impact. These inadequate standards are still used by all car manufacturers. From 1990-2015, there have been approximately 11,000 front seat deaths, 3,179 rear-seat deaths including 962 children, 90 in California.

Kept secret for **32 years**

For more information about SB 1149 please contact Kristina Bas Hamilton at kristina@kbhadvocacy.com or Nancy Peverini at nancyp@caoc.org

Secrecy: Broad protective orders were issued *in almost every case*, 1000s in all. One crashworthiness engineering company alone reports settlement agreements or orders required in each of over 400 cases, all lasting after cases closed with document destruction required.

SECRECY PROTECTS GUN MANUFACTURERS

REMINGTON UNDER FIRE

Huge trove of Remington rifle documents is made public

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Kept secret **OVER 60 years**

REMINGTON RIFLES: The Remington 700 series rifles, on the market since the 1940s, had a faulty trigger that could fire without pulling the trigger when the safety was released. Despite knowing this since 1948, Remington maintained that secret for over sixty years.

Secrecy: Remington received over 3000 complaints of unintended firings and admitted paying out over \$18 million with at least 118 cases hidden behind secrecy agreements or protective orders. Only after nine-year-old Gus Barber was killed by an unintended trigger firing in 2000 and his father went on a crusade did Remington's decades-long secret danger become public.

SECRECY KILLS AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

ROUNDUP: Monsanto's Roundup, a weed killer routinely used by California's agricultural workers, has now been shown to cause cancer. It remains subject to many lawsuits including a 2016 class action filed in San Francisco.

Secrecy: The secrecy order still stands today. The order allows Monsanto to decide what it wants to keep secret – **it chose almost everything** – and sets up an almost impossible hurdle for anyone seeking to expose Roundup.



Kept secret for **20 years**

SECRECY KILLS INDISCRIMINATELY



Kept secret for **12 years**

OXYCONTIN: Today we all know the truth about Purdue Pharma's lies about Oxy. Reuters' 2019 study computed that 245,000 people had died of Oxy overdoses between 2002 and 2016.

Secrecy: During those years, Reuters found over a dozen blanket protective orders that kept Purdue's lies secret from the public and from the nation's 200,000 primary care doctors.

COOPER TIRES: These tires lacked basic safety features to keep dual belts from separating, resulting in 1000s of shredded tires, and by 2016, at least 331 deaths, hundreds of injuries, and 460 documented lawsuits.

Secrecy: Due to complete secrecy of all documents, this defect was hidden after all cases were settled and some dangerous tires still remain on the road today.



Kept secret for **20+ years**

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