

**E&C Member Day Remarks**

*December 12, 2025*

Thank you, Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone, for holding today's Member Day and allowing me to testify.

As the father of three beautiful children, I think most parents will agree those first days and weeks after you bring your child – especially your first one – home from the hospital can be terrifying. No nurses to help you anymore. Maybe some family. But it's ultimately now on you to keep this person God entrusted you with alive. And you're learning on the job.

Of course, there are the sleepless nights. Not just because of the feedings, but also because the threat of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome – or SIDS – lurks in the back of your mind.

SIDS is the unexplained death of a healthy baby under one year old, typically during sleep. According to the Cleveland Clinic, about 2,500 infants die from SIDS annually. That's 2,500 families that must endure the unbelievable heartbreak of losing a child.

The causes for SIDS are largely unknown, and prevention options are often limited to safe sleep practices. However, over the past decade, there have been advancements in infant home cardiorespiratory monitors. These devices are typically worn on an infant's foot and track the infant's heart rate, blood oxygen levels, and other vitals, and can notify parents or caregivers if vitals drop.

I wish we had some of these new technologies like this when my kids were newborns.

While this technology is promising there are limited studies on its effectiveness and thus limited insurance coverage.

That's why I'm proud to lead H.R. 2168, the Baby Observation Act, or BO's bill. This bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study and submit a report to Congress on home cardiorespiratory monitors for infants. The report would include evidence on the effectiveness, performance, and accuracy of such devices. Additionally, it would include criteria and recommendations for public and private health insurance coverage of such devices, if they are proven effective.

BO's Act is named after Bo Newton from Lakeville, Indiana in my district who benefited greatly from this technology. His parents have become strong advocates for helping other families access this technology.

This technology can be lifesaving. It's important that we study its full capabilities and expand access as necessary. No parent should have to endure the immense pain of losing a child, and these types of devices could make all the difference.

Rep. Rudy Yakym (IN-02)

Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone, I would like to work with you and your staff to advance this important bill through committee and across the House floor.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I yield back.

(3 minutes)