

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 15, 2007

Ms. Nicole Nason  
Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Nason:

We are writing to urge you to promulgate strong and effective safety standards in connection with the regulatory requirements enacted in the 2005 Safe Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Pub. L. 109-59 (Aug. 10, 2005).

Of specific interest are several vehicle safety-related rulemakings contained in Title X, Subtitle C, including rollover protection, occupant ejection, roof crush resistance or roof strength, and side impact protection. To provide proper protection to the driving public, we believe NHTSA should approach aforementioned rulemakings with the recognition that they must be addressed not as "stand-alone" rules, but in a comprehensive fashion. Developing a rule on roof crush, for instance, should not be undertaken without consideration of occupant ejection during a rollover crash. The strength of the roof prevents the failure of doors, windows and shoulder belts.

Additionally, it is important that NHTSA meet the deadlines and the specific requirements set in statute for promulgating these rules. As you have previously stated, the agency is currently on schedule to complete the rulemakings in Title X, Subtitle C. We hope this schedule remains on track. As you proceed with these important rulemakings, we want to be assured that test methodologies or other criteria used by NHTSA in formulating proposed and final rules reflect statutory provisions and congressional intent, thus resulting in maximum protection for the driving public. We urge you to base these rules on the best safety technologies available in order to maximize the number of lives saved and injuries prevented.

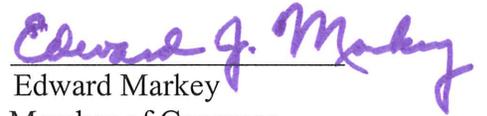
As you know, these landmark vehicle safety provisions were long overdue. Promulgating protective vehicle safety standards consistent with the deadlines as well as the requirements of the SAFETEA-LU law will greatly reduce the 43,000 deaths and nearly three million injuries that occur each year on our Nation's roadways.

We ask that you continue your work to promptly promulgate these important life-saving safety standards, and look forward to hearing from you as to the progress NHTSA is making toward their implementation.

Sincerely,



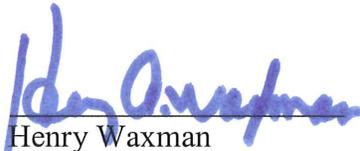
Mary Bono  
Member of Congress



Edward Markey  
Member of Congress



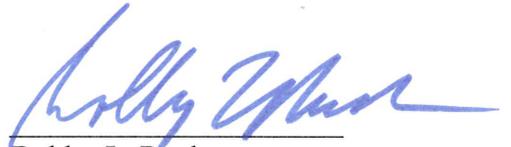
Ed Whitfield  
Member of Congress



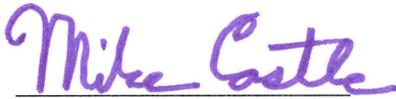
Henry Waxman  
Member of Congress



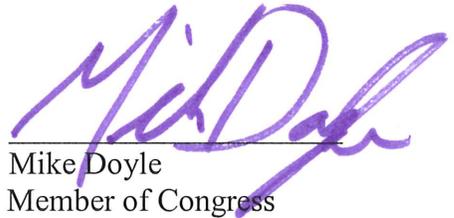
Shelley Moore Capito  
Member of Congress



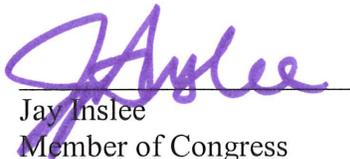
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



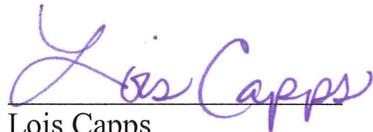
Michael N. Castle  
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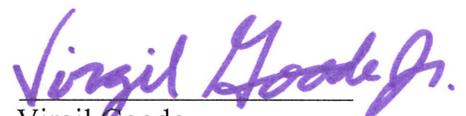
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Jason Altmire  
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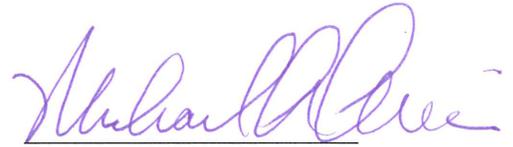
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Paul Ryan  
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Michael Arcuri  
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Paul Gillmor  
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