

January 5, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Leader  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Republican  
Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair  
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Brian Schatz, Chair  
The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ranking  
Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker  
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Democratic  
Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger, Chair  
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair  
The Honorable Mike Quigley, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Republican Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, Democratic Leader Jeffries,  
Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chair Schatz, Ranking Member Hyde-Smith, Chair Granger,  
Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Cole and Ranking Member Quigley:

As organizations committed to eliminating preventable motor vehicle crashes and saving lives, we urge  
you to reject anti-safety provisions and riders to the FY 2024 Transportation, Housing and Urban  
Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) funding legislation.

Action to address the destruction on our roadways is urgently needed. On average, 118 people were  
killed every day on roads in the U.S. in 2021,<sup>i</sup> totaling nearly 43,000 fatalities for the year. Early  
projections for 2022 traffic fatalities remain high,<sup>ii</sup> as do estimates for the first nine months of 2023.<sup>iii</sup>  
Despite this alarming status, provisions have been included in the Senate and House THUD bills, S.  
Amdt. 1092 to H.R. 4366 and H.R. 4820, that endanger the traveling public.

We urge you to ensure that the following provisions are not retained in the latest version of the bill  
including to: permit truck weight increases or increases in axle weight for certain trucks in Mississippi,  
West Virginia or any other state; prohibit funding to enforce requirements related to electronic logging  
devices (ELD) for carriers transporting livestock and insects; and, prohibit use of funds to require  
inward-facing cameras for the Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program (SDAP) and to require that the  
SDAP is registered with the Department of Labor's Registered Apprenticeship Program to ensure the  
integrity of the SDAP.

These measures as well as language that would defund or repeal rulemaking for vehicle safety technologies including advanced impaired driving prevention technology, automatic emergency braking and speed curbing systems or hinder funding for roadway safety infrastructure upgrades, must not be included in the annual funding legislation. Sufficient funding and resources for the U.S. DOT and its safety agencies must be ensured as well to achieve their safety missions.

Sincerely,

AAA

Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety

Center for Auto Safety

Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways

Families for Safe Streets

Kids and Car Safety

National Safety Council

Parents Against Tired Truckers

Safe Kids Worldwide

Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research

Trauma Foundation

Truck Safety Coalition

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<sup>i</sup> Overview of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes in 2021, NHTSA, Apr. 2023, DOT HS 813 435. (Overview 2021).

<sup>ii</sup> Traffic Safety Facts: Crash Stats, Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities in 2022, NHTSA, Apr. 2023, DOT HS 813 428. (Early Estimates 2022).

<sup>iii</sup> National Center for Statistics and Analysis. (2023, December). Early estimate of motor vehicle traffic fatalities for the first 9 months (January–September) of 2023 (Crash•Stats Brief Statistical Summary. Report No. DOT HS 813 530). NHTSA.