

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 18, 2024

Sophie Shulman  
Deputy Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE. West Building  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Deputy Director Shulman:

Thank you for your service to the United States. To enhance children's safety while traveling on our Nation's highways, I write to urge the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to complete a study examining the accessibility of child safety seats for low-income and underserved families in the United States, as required by Section 24207 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Child safety seats, such as car seats and booster seats, are critical to reducing the rate of child injury and death in car accidents. According to NHTSA data, the proper use of car seats reduces the risk of injury for infants under one year old by 71% and for children between the ages of 1 and 4 by 54%. However, we know that income disparities impact families' ability to access child safety seats and protect their children while traveling.

Children are precious, and the safety and well-being of children must be one of our highest concerns. It is important that NHTSA work expeditiously in coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services partner agencies to complete this study, identify recommendations to improve access to child safety seats, and implement these recommendations to save lives.

Please provide an update on the status of the study required by Section 24207 of the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act within one month of receipt of this letter. I look forward to working with you to ensure each child has an opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive in a safe environment.

Sincerely,



Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator

Cc: Secretary Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Department of Transportation; Secretary Tom Vilsack, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Secretary Miguel Cardona, U.S. Department of Education; Secretary Xavier Becerra, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services