

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 5, 2024

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

Dear Deputy Director Shulman:

Thank you for your service to the United States. I write to follow up on my March 18 inquiry into the study required to be completed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) examining accessibility to child safety seats. The study was required by Section 24207 of the bipartisan infrastructure law.

You responded on April 3 noting that you and your staff were “currently reviewing literature related to motor vehicle child safety seat accessibility for low-income families and underserved populations.”

In the nearly 7 months since this response, I have not received any further updates on the progress NHTSA has made on completing the study. Moreover, it has now been nearly three years since the bipartisan infrastructure law was signed into law. I am concerned with timeliness of implementation of this statutory requirement.

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 bipartisan infrastructure law, as well as an expected completion date for the study, within a month of receipt of this letter. I further request that within the same time frame NHTSA brief my office on the study within.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure each child has an opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive in a safe environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Ossoff", written in a cursive style.

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