



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

February 13, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

Enclosed for introduction and referral to the appropriate committee is a bill

To amend subsection (e)(1) of Section 2010 ("Motorcyclist Safety") of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, or SAFETEA-LU, to allow a State to use funds from a grant under Section 2010 to promote the use of motorcycle helmets.

The purpose of this legislation is to amend subsection (e)(1) of Section 2010 ("Motorcyclist Safety") of SAFETEA-LU to allow a State to use funds from a grant under Section 2010 to promote the use of motorcycle helmets. Under current authority, a State may use Section 2010 grant funds only for motorcyclist safety training and motorcyclist awareness programs.

In 2006, motorcycle fatalities increased for the ninth consecutive year to a total of 4,810, an increase of 127 percent since 1997. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that motorcycle helmets not only saved the lives of 1,658 motorcyclists in 2006, but that 752 additional lives could have been saved if all motorcyclists had worn helmets.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the submission of this legislative proposal for the consideration of Congress, and that its enactment would be consistent with the program of the President.

An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Senate. If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary E. Peters".

Mary E. Peters

Enclosure

A BILL

To amend subsection (e)(1) of Section 2010 ("Motorcyclist Safety") of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to allow a State to use funds from a grant under Section 2010 to promote the use of motorcycle helmets.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That

Subsection (e)(1) of Section 2010 ("Motorcyclist Safety") of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109-59; 119 Stat.1144, et seq.) is amended by striking "only" and inserting the following: "to promote the use of motorcycle helmets, and".