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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a final rule revising motor vehicle seat back safety standards.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Miss RICE of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a final rule revising motor vehicle seat back safety standards.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing Seat Back
5 Safety Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MOTOR VEHICLE SEAT BACK SAFETY STANDARDS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS; PURPOSES.—

8 (1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (A) crashes involving seat structural fail-
2 ures in passenger motor vehicles pose a signifi-
3 cant public health and safety threat, particu-
4 larly to children occupying rear seats;

5 (B) thousands of preventable fatalities and
6 life- threatening injuries have occurred as a re-
7 sult of motor vehicle seat failures;

8 (C) the National Highway Traffic Safety
9 Administration has neglected to improve the
10 motor vehicle seat integrity standard for more
11 than 50 years, to the detriment of passenger
12 motor vehicle safety; and

13 (D) this Act is introduced in honor and
14 memory of the victims of motor vehicle seat
15 failures in crashes, including those whose pre-
16 cious lives were cut far too short as a result of
17 seat failures and those whose catastrophic inju-
18 ries dramatically changed their lives, including
19 Taylor Grace Warner, Jayden-Faith Fraser,
20 Emily Reavis, Owen Reavis, Teddy Schwab,
21 Jaklin Romine, Russell Selkirk, Travis
22 Oldhouser, Thomas Comella, Geneva Massie,
23 Crystal Collins, Mary Portis, Dzemila Heco,
24 Aaliyah George, Heikki Helava, and Clyde M.
25 Sneed.

1 (2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act
2 are—

3 (A) to reduce the number of preventable
4 deaths and injuries caused by motor vehicle
5 seat failures; and

6 (B) to improve passenger motor vehicle
7 safety.

8 (b) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 2 years after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, subject to subsection (c),
10 the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule up-
11 dating section 571.207 of title 49, Code of Federal Regu-
12 lations, to reduce the potential for injury to all motor vehi-
13 cle occupants due to seat back failure during all types of
14 vehicle impact.

15 (c) COMPLIANCE DATE.—In issuing the final rule
16 pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary of Transpor-
17 tation shall establish a date for required compliance with
18 the final rule of not later than 2 motor vehicle model years
19 after the model year during which the effective date of
20 the final rule occurs.