



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 22, 2023

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DOT AEB RULE WILL PREVENT THOUSANDS OF TRUCK CRASH DEATHS AND INJURIES

Washington, DC – The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act required DOT to propose and finalize a new rule mandating lifesaving Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) for Class 7/8 Trucks (26,000+ lbs.) Today, DOT released its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) and it goes well beyond the floor set by Congress and aims to require this proven, lifesaving technology on **ALL** newly manufactured Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMVs), including those over 10,000 lbs.

The announcement was greeted with enthusiastic support from truck crash victims and survivors exceedingly grateful for this lifesaving measure. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration conservatively estimates that the rule would prevent 19,118 truck crashes per year, saving 155 lives and reducing 8,814 injuries annually.

“Automatic braking rules for cars and trucks are the most important safety improvements that could be issued. Like airbags in the 1990s, this rule will save thousands of lives and reduce or eliminate millions of horrible injuries on the highway. It is the most important safety rule the Biden Administration can and should issue.” – **Joan Claybrook, CRASH Board President**

“I’m grateful that countless families will never experience the depth of pain and suffering that accompanies losing a loved one in a horrific truck crash. This has been a long time coming and will provide everyone enhanced protections they deserve from the dangers of large trucks.” – **Tami Friedrich, Truck Safety Coalition Board President**

“My 5-year-old son, Wyatt, was stolen from me when a Class 6 box truck rammed into his vehicle. I sincerely thank DOT for following through on its public safety mission and

ensuring this rule applies to Class 3-6 trucks.” - **Jena Frost, Truck Safety Coalition Volunteer**

“Today’s news is nothing short of historic. If this game-changing technology had been equipped in the truck that struck and killed my daughter, despite the fact the driver was fatigued, my daughter, Dana would still be with us today.” - **Franklin Wood, Truck Safety Coalition Volunteer**

“The AEB rule will undoubtedly move the needle in significantly reducing truck crash deaths and injuries over the years to come. As more and more trucks hit the road with AEB, deaths and injuries will drop accordingly.” - **Daphne Izer, Parents Against Tired Truckers Co-Founder**

“I don’t think I’ve ever seen a proposed rule with such a substantial life-saving impact. I’ve endured many dreary days in the fight to advance truck safety following the death of my son, Aaron. Today is **NOT** one of them. Once finalized, this rule will be remembered as the day the tide began to turn in the fight against truck crash deaths and injuries.” - **Pam Biddle, CRASH Board Member**

“Humans are fallible. Sometimes truck drivers are distracted or fatigued. AEB is effective even when humans make mistakes. This is a slam dunk for roadway safety.” - **TSC Executive Director, Zach Cahalan**

The United States is poised to join the European Union in mandating AEB on large trucks, which has had a comparable requirement since 2013. The rule also satisfies a long-standing recommendation made by the National Transportation Safety Board to DOT nearly ten years ago. Make no mistake, America is in the midst of a truck crash crisis. Since 2009, truck crash deaths have increased by 71% with 5,700 lives lost and nearly 155,000 injured in 2021 (the most recent year for which data is available). AEB will improve safety outcomes across the board and TSC urges DOT to use all resources at its disposal to expeditiously complete this rulemaking.

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The Truck Safety Coalition (TSC) is a partnership between Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH), also known as The CRASH Foundation, and Parents Against Tired Truckers (P.A.T.T.). The Truck Safety Coalition is dedicated to reducing the number of deaths and injuries caused by truck-related crashes, providing compassionate support to truck crash survivors and families of truck crash victims, and educating the public, policymakers, and the media about truck safety issues. Visit our website at <https://trucksafety.org>.