

2012 PASSENGER SAFETY TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, Nationally Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children age 5 to 19 years old; ^{9, 10a, 10b} and
- WHEREAS, In Utah, Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children age 5 to 19 years old; ^{11, 12, 15} and
- WHEREAS, Research findings found that the majority of children ages 3 to 8 were not properly restrained in child restraints or booster seats. Instead, they were placed in vehicle seat belts, which are designed for adults, not children; ^{3, 4, 6, 13} and
- WHEREAS, The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, NHTSA, sets the safety standards for manufacturers in making motor vehicles, minimum seatbelt safety standards are set to fit a person at 4 feet 9 inches, or, 56 inches; ^{1, 2} and
- WHEREAS, Research on the effectiveness of child safety seats has found them to reduce fatal injury for those younger than 1 year old by 71 percent; ^{9, 15} and
- WHEREAS, Research on the effectiveness of child safety seats has found them to reduce fatal injury for toddlers, 1 to 4 years old by 54 percent; ^{4, 9, 14} and
- WHEREAS, Research on the effectiveness of booster seats has found them to reduce injury for children, 4 to 8 years old by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone; ^{4, 6, 9, 14, 20} and
- WHEREAS, In Utah over the last 10 years (2001-2010), there have been 191 child occupants ages 5-18 who were unrestrained that were killed in motor vehicle crashes; enough children to fill 8 classrooms; ^{11, 12} and
- WHEREAS, Allowing children ages two to five to be placed in a seat belt is an extremely dangerous practice; restraining a child inappropriately in an adult seat belt results in a 3.5-fold increased risk of significant injury and a more than four-fold increased risk of significant head/brain injury; ^{3, 4} and
- WHEREAS, Laws requiring that all children up to age eight or at least 4' 9" tall ride in a belt-positioning booster seat; ^{7, 8} and
- WHEREAS, Children rely on adults to provide for their protection and safety in the vehicle. Nine out of ten parents believe that if they adhere to their state's current child passenger safety laws, they will be taking adequate steps to protect their children; ^{8, 16} and

WHEREAS, Based on the overwhelming evidence if used properly and as designed that safety belt use saves lives, reduces injuries, and reduces the economic costs associated with motor vehicle crashes;^{4, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20} now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies work to educate its members concerning the importance of consistent standard child safety seats and seat belt use for all passengers and drivers; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage public-private partnerships among public officials, law enforcement agencies, associations, communities, health groups and businesses to work to ensure that all Utah children and adults buckle up; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage and support passage of legislation that will endorse child safety seat laws that will increase effective use of child safety seats when transporting children in a motor vehicle in the state of Utah; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage and support passage of legislation that will endorse child safety seats laws and standard seat belt laws that will increase effective use of car seats and seat belts in the state of Utah.

Documentation:

¹Code of Federal Regulations: Annotated, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, Part 571, Standard number 209 Seat Belt Assemblies & Standard 213 under S4.1(g)(1), U.S. Department of Transportation, NHTSA, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, http://cfr.regstoday.com/49cfr571.aspx#49_CFR_571p209, and, http://cfr.regstoday.com/49cfr571.aspx#49_CFR_571p213, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Rules & Regulations, Standard No: 213, Child Restraint Systems, February 29, 2012, and <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/administration/fmcsr/fmcsrruletext.aspx?reg=571.213>

²Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, and Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Part 571, Standard number 209 Seat Belt Assemblies & Standard number 213 Child Safety Restraints. Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, 400 7th Street, SW Room 6111, Mail Code NSA-30, Washington D.C. 20590, <http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import/fmvss/index.html>

³Partners for Child Passenger Safety (PCPS), a joint project of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and State Farm Insurance Companies, http://stokes.chop.edu/programs/injury/our_research/pcps.php

⁴Partners for Child Passenger Safety (PCPS, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, State Farm Insurance Companies, American Academy of Pediatrics), 34th St. and Civic Center Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19104-4399, "Child Passenger Safety Issue Report, The Forgotten Child," ISSUE NO. 1, JULY 2004

⁵State of Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Crash Summary 2010, (most recent source for data), <http://www.scribd.com/doc/87097692/Utah-Crash-Summary-2010>

⁶Utah Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Office, 2009 Utah Crash Facts, "Booster Seat Use Among Children 4 through 7 Years," October 2011, fact sheet. <http://publicsafety.utah.gov/highwaysafety/publications.html>

⁷Utah State Code / Constitution; Title 41 Motor Vehicles, Chapter 6a Traffic Code, Section 1803 Driver and Passengers – Seat Belt or Child Restraint Device Required, http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE41/htm/41_06a180300.htm,

- ⁸Summary of Vehicle Occupant Protection Laws, 9th Edition, Shannon Halverson, Utah Code Annotated, Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel, W210 State Capitol Complex, Salt Lake City, UT 84114, Phone (801) 538-1032 Fax (801) 538-1712
- ⁹U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis, “Traffic Safety Facts,” 2009 Data, Children, DOT HS 811 387.
- ¹⁰Office of Statistics and Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC, National Vital Statistics Systems, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC, using WISQARS, “10 Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, United States – 2009,”
<http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/LeadingCauses.html>
- a. http://www.cdc.gov/Injury/wisqars/pdf/Leading_Causes_injury_Deaths_Age_Group_Highlighting_Unintentional_Injury%20Deaths_US_2009-a.pdf,
- b. <http://www.cdc.gov/Injury/wisqars/pdf/10LCD-Age-Grp-US-2009-pdf>,
- ¹¹“10 Leading Causes of Injury Death, Utah Children Ages 0-19, 2006-2010,” April 12, 2012, Utah Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, Utah Department of Health.
- ¹²Utah Department of Public Safety, Highway Safety Office, Gary Mower, Research Analyst,
<http://publicsafety.utah.gov/highwaysafety>
- ¹³U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, “Primary Enforcement Saves Lives, The Case for Upgrading Secondary Safety Belt Laws,” DOT HS 810 649, September 2006.
<http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/enforce/PrimaryEnforcement/images/PrimaryEnforcement.pdf>
- ¹⁴“Effectiveness of Belt Positioning Booster Seats: An Updated Assessment,” Pediatrics, November 2009; 124:5 1281-1286; published ahead of print October 19, 2009, doi:10.1542 / peds.2009-0908, Authors: Kristy B. Arbogast, Jessica S. Jermakian, Michael J. Kallan, and Dennis R. Durbin
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/124/5/1281.full.pdf+html?sid=192f5957-0002-475c-924a-06fde76ce7d5>
- ¹⁵2010 Utah Crash Summary Data, State of Utah Department of Public Safety, The annual Utah Crash Summary, as specified by Utah Code under Section 41-6a-406, describes the trends and effects of traffic crashes in Utah, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/87097692/Utah-Crash-Summary-2010>
- ¹⁶Daimler Chrysler survey, and its free child safety seat inspection service -- Fit for a Kid -- with technical assistance from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), September 14, 2011, as reported by KTRE, ABC, Texas, <http://www.ktre.com/story/15444091/child-safety-and-cars>
- ¹⁷State of Utah Department of Public Safety, “Urban Versus Rural Safety Belt Usage in Utah,” fact sheet, September 2008, http://publicsafety.utah.gov/highwaysafety/documents/ruralsurvey2008report_000.pdf
- ¹⁸Boost Til 8: Utah’s Law Protecting Kids,” 2010, State of Utah Department of Public Safety,
http://publicsafety.utah.gov/highwaysafety/documents/BoosterCard_ENG.pdf
- ¹⁹“Countermeasures That Work,” U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, DOT HS 811444, February 2011
<http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/pdf/811444.pdf>
- ²⁰“Motor Vehicle Child Restraints,” Legislative Fact Sheet, February 8, 2010, Violence and Injury Prevention Program, Utah Department of Health