

AAMVA Legislative & Regulatory Alerts



AAMVA Government Affairs

aamva.org

movemag.org

AAMVA Opposes RECALL Act

Earlier this month [AAMVA](#) issued a [legislative alert](#) concerning the Markey/Blumenthal RECALL Act ([S617](#)) which mandates state motor vehicle agencies notify owners of any outstanding vehicle safety recalls at the time of registration; requires owners complete all safety recall work prior to registration renewal; and withholds federal highway funds from any state that fails to comply. AAMVA has taken the following position and is pleased to be joined by the [Governor's Highway Safety Association \(GHSA\)](#) in opposition. AAMVA is working collaboratively with the bill's sponsors and will keep the membership apprised of its status.

POSITION STATEMENT ON S. 617: Repairing Every Car to Avoid Lost Lives Act (RECALL ACT)

Improving vehicle safety through more stringent recall requirements is an important national priority, but the Repairing Every Car to Avoid Lost Lives Act (RECALL Act) is misguided. The bill imposes an unfunded mandate on states and prevents vehicle owners from legally operating their vehicles until they fix a manufacturer's mistake.

The RECALL Act makes motor vehicle agencies responsible for rectifying the shortcomings of private industry by conditioning customers' vehicle registration renewal on fixing defective or noncompliant automobiles. This bill shifts the burden and the costs of correcting vehicle defects from the direct responsible party, the manufacturer, to the taxpayers of the individual states, and threatens to withhold federal highway funds from states that do not implement the requirements. States would have to spend significant sums to comply, outlays that will strain already-limited transportation funding and divert highway safety funds from other priority safety programs. Furthermore, the bill assumes the existence of a national, real-time safety recall data base that states could

Previous Alerts

To search through all previous AAMVA Legislative and Regulatory alerts, visit the AAMVA Government Affairs page [here](#).



American Association of
Motor Vehicle Administrators

4401 Wilson Blvd, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22203
703-522-4200

For questions about AAMVA's
Government Affairs, please contact
Cian Cashin at ccashin@aamva.org

interact with for the most current recall information. No such system exists today.

The best way to improve the rate of safety recall repairs is by holding manufacturers accountable for the quality of their products, not by penalizing vehicle owners and state government agencies with this unfunded federal mandate. AAMVA and its members would be pleased to work with Congress and stakeholders to identify alternative strategies that will most effectively and efficiently tackle this priority and make our nation's roads safer.

