

APR 21 2010

April 12, 2010

Royal Oak, Mi

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INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

Raymond La Hood, Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
David Strickland, Administrator  
NHTSA

1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.  
West Building  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Sirs:

I understand that Electronic Stability Control is to be a mandatory addition to cars, light trucks and S.U.V.'s starting with the 2012 model year.

That is an unwise decision !!

I have been driving for more years than Mr. Strickland is old and almost as long as Mr. La Hood is old.

I have never, let me repeat never been in a driving situation where I have ever needed ESC. I have lived in Michigan my whole life, so I have driven in all kinds of weather, in all kinds of cars from clunkers to new ones.

The only people who need ESC are the morons in their oversized, top heavy

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four wheel drive SUV's and trucks who drive over their heads in poor conditions. I have seen it happen many times.

I am not an "old cost" driver and never have been. I still drive a car with a manual trans and my present everyday driver, a 2004 PT Cruiser, doesn't even have ABS.

I have always used seat belts since they were available.

In 1966 I installed 2 extra sets of belts in my Valiant wagon so all possible occupants could be belted in.

In 1972, when I worked in air bag and seat belt development at General Motors, I installed a better system in my '72 Valiant. I also ordered this car with power disc brakes, long before they were made standard equipment. I did not succumb to power steering until 1980 when I could not buy a car that suited my needs without it.

I was forced to buy air bags in my 2001 PT Cruiser and my 2004 PT Cruiser. If I could have I would have bought the cars without them.

I was in an accident with a smaller Ford rental car. It was a minor fender bender, and the air bag deployment caused more damage than the actual accident.

I do not need nor do I want ESC, ABS, air bags, tire pressure monitors and most of the other crap that DOT/NHTSA has forced down the motorists throats.

The government nanny state coddles and caters to, too many people who don't have enough sense to learn how to drive, take care of their cars and realize that they can't do things in their cars beyond their abilities.

There are only four criteria that I use to select a car.

1. Does it serve my transportation needs

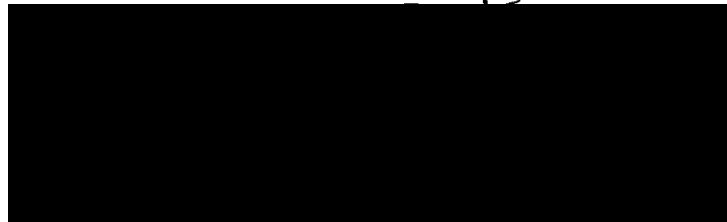
2. Do I like the way it looks

3. Can I afford to buy it

4. Can I afford to drive and maintain it

Other than seat belts and the design integrity of the vehicle structure, safety is not even on the list.

Sincerely,





Royal Oak MI



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Administrator  
NHTSA  
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