Comment from Matt Healey

Replacing traditional mirrors with cameras would a mistake for several reasons. Cameras and electronics are intrinsically less reliable that a passive mirror. A passive mirror does not require power or electronics and works in every situation. Cameras can not make the same claim. Cameras are more expensive and will increase the total cost of the car compared to traditional mirrors in both initial purchase price and ongoing maintenance when there is a required inspection or repair. For these reasons using a camera rather than a traditional mirror will make the car less safe and more costly.

Given this, paying to collect information is a waste of both government time and money. It also further advances the concept. Auto manufacturers will be able to find something in the study that justifies the transition to cameras. They will want to move in this direction to drive margins and interest in the cars. Since I believe that the transition will be detrimental to the overall cost and safety of the cars, I think this study should not be conducted.