

Comment from N D

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Jan 3, 2024

I'm in favor of this change.

Improvements to vehicle safety has been solely focused on safety for vehicle occupants, and no one else. As a result the vehicles have become safer and safer for their occupants, especially with the advent of massive SUVs. This situation has created vehicles that are more dangerous to pedestrians because of their weight and frontend design.

The United States is an exception in this trend: European Union, for example, saw a 23% decline in pedestrian deaths between 2010 and 2019, in part due to vehicle regulations to protect pedestrians. During that same 10- year period from 2010 to 2019, the number of U.S. pedestrian fatalities increased by 46%.

The future is not in our favor: 80% of new personal vehicles sold are SUVs; and EVs, presented as a panacea, are much heavier than gas powered cars due to their battery weight and density. For any EV car to be eligible to receive a tax credit, it should be required to meet stricter safety guidelines (visibility, pedestrian protection, etc). These should also apply to any large, heavy vehicles.