

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 16, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Mick Mulvaney  
Director  
The Office of Management and Budget  
725 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Chao and Director Mulvaney,

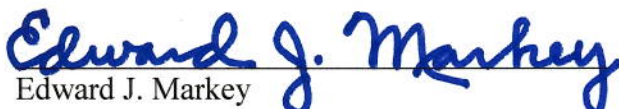
We write to urge you to swiftly conduct a rulemaking that will ensure tire pressure monitoring systems, which alert drivers when their tire air pressure has reached dangerously low levels, cannot be recalibrated to unsafe levels. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) current regulations allow tire pressure monitoring systems to be reset or recalibrated to unsafe pressure levels without alerting the driver, which could inadvertently increase the risk of a tire failure or blow out.


In the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (P.L. 114-94), we secured a provision requiring the NHTSA to update its current tire pressure monitoring regulations. The provision required the Department of Transportation (DOT) to publish a proposed rule by December 4, 2016. We find it concerning that this statutory deadline has not been met, leaving this important safety mandate unfulfilled.

It is time to implement this safety requirement, and we encourage you to move forward immediately. We respectfully request that you provide us a written status update on the rulemaking, including a timeline of key milestones and expected completion dates, by March 8, 2018. We appreciate your effort toward ensuring motor vehicle and highway safety and we thank you for your focus on this issue.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about our request, please contact Daniel Greene (202-224-2742) in Senator Markey's office or Kelsey Keegan in Senator Gardner's office (202-224-5941).

Sincerely,

  
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

  
Cory Gardner  
United States Senator