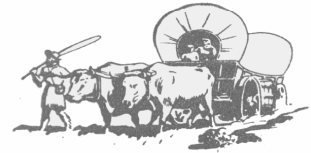




AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS
Great Plains Chapter
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Omaha, Nebraska 68137



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2007-2008

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February 8, 2008

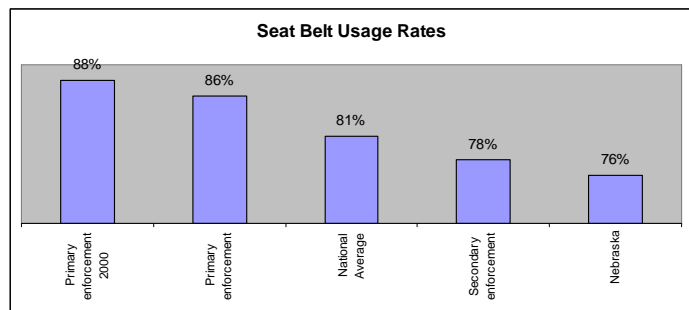
Nebraska Unicameral
ATTN: Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
Room 1101, State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509

RE: Support of LB812 – Primary Enforcement of Nebraska Seat Belt Law

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Great Plains Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) to support LB812 and primary enforcement of Nebraska's seat belt law.

The statistics are clear and irrefutable – seat belts save lives. The statistics are also clear that primary enforcement increases seat belt usage. Of the states that have had primary enforcement since 2000, average seat belt usage rates are 88 percent. Those states that currently have primary enforcement (regardless of the year of implementation), average seat belt usage rates are 86 percent. Those states with secondary or no enforcement have average seat belt usage rates of 78 percent. The United States average usage rate is 81 percent and Nebraska usage rate is a dismal 76 percent.



Nebraska ranks 39th among all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.¹

We urge the committee to quickly pass LB812 and send to the full Unicameral.

Sincerely,

Doris A. Burns, CSP, ALCM
Vice President & Legislative Affairs Chairperson

¹ Statistics derived from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, April 2007

ASSE and its members have been protecting people, property, and the environment since 1911. ASSE is the world's oldest and largest professional safety organization, now serving 32,000 members internationally. The Great Plains Chapter encompasses the state of Nebraska, Western Iowa, Southwest Minnesota, and Southeast South Dakota and has nearly 200 members.