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David L. Strickland, Administrator  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
West Building  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Strickland:

Once again, a child passenger on school bus is fatally injured as he is partially ejected from a school bus and crushed as the vehicle rolls over and kills him.

Had his familiar, large yellow school bus been equipped with a seat belts the 15 year old would be alive today.

It is now seven months since a group of prominent group of safety, medical, public interest groups and concerned individuals petitioned your agency to extend the current requirement that only small school be equipped with lap/shoulder belts be amended to include all newly manufactured school buses.

The week of October 17-24 has been designated Teen Driver Safety Week by your agency. The message is "Always Buckle Up." Sadly, James Rashawn Walker did not have that opportunity. He was provided with no belt to buckle.

It is now time to accept our petition and implement.

Sincerely,

**Petition Signatories-The National Coalition for School Bus Safety (NCSBS), Center for Auto Safety (CAS), Public Citizen (PC), Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety (CARS), Consumers Union (CU), KidsandCars.org, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, Consumer Federation of America (CFA), SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., the Trauma Foundation, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the Orthopaedic Trauma Association, 2safeschools.org, Safe Ride News, the Advocacy Institute for Children, Belt Up School Kids, the Coalition for Child Safety, Nancy Bauder, Lynn Brown, Norm Cherkis, Ruth Spaulding, and Rhea Vogel**

