As I prepare to retire from the Automotive Safety Program, I cannot help but reflect on the last twenty-seven years spent here, the changes I have observed and the wonderful experiences I have shared with so many of you. When I started with the program, there were only a few car seat manufacturers and no such thing as a child passenger safety technician. Rear-facing weight limits stopped at 20 lbs and the Indiana law allowed children to ride in adult seat belts at age 3 and 4. (Oh, and my hair was still red.)

When I look back, I am amazed at how far we have come in such a short amount of time. I credit you and your child passenger safety technician peers for making the biggest difference in improving the lives of child occupants. Your passion, energy and selflessness are unparalleled. It has been a rare privilege to have worked with you.

My creaking bones and aging brain have convinced me to step aside. I do so knowing the children of Indiana are riding safer because of you.

Many thanks, Judith Talty
AAP MAKES OVER REAR-FACING MESSAGE

CPSTs have long shared the importance of children riding rear-facing as long as possible based on recommendations from NHTSA and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). In August 2018, the American Academy of Pediatrics released updated versions of their child passenger safety policy statement and technical report, which included rewording of their rear-facing longer recommendation. The emphasis on 2 years of age has been downplayed and replaced with emphasis on “as long as possible”, until they reach the weight or height allowed by their CSS manufacturer. This is followed by “Most convertible seats have limits that will permit children to ride rear-facing for 2 years or more.” Although the words are slightly different, the message is the same: children should ride rear facing as long as possible.

ADVOCATES FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY RANK STATE LAWS

The Advocates for Highway Safety have released the 2019 Roadmap of State Highway Laws, 16th Edition. The report compares traffic safety laws from all 50 states and the District of Columbia and ranks them according to the number of optimal provisions in the laws. States that have all the desired provisions are ranked green; laws with some of the provisions are ranked yellow; and those with none are ranked red.

In order for states’ child restraint laws to rank green, they are required to mandate rear-facing to age 2 and have a booster seat law. Five states ranked green, 17 states yellow and 28 states red, including Indiana.

Indiana’s ranking is misleading. When the law was changed in 2005, “booster” was left out intentionally and “child restraint” used instead in hopes of children staying in five point harnesses longer. Indiana deserves at least an orange ranking for that.

WEBSITE REMODELED

If you have visited our website lately, you may have noticed some changes. As of January 1, 2019, we launched a remodeled version of [www.preventinjury.org](http://www.preventinjury.org). The new site is similar in appearance to other IU sites and is hosted by PedsIT. This required us to change the address to: [https://preventinjury.pediatrics.iu.edu](https://preventinjury.pediatrics.iu.edu). If you use preventinjury.org, you’ll be redirected to the new site.

GM RECALL COULD IMPACT CAR SEAT INSTALLATION

In November 2018, GM recalled certain 2018-2019 vehicles due to problems with the automatic locking seat belt retractor in the second or third row seats. Affected by the recall were the Cadillac CT6, Escalade ESV, Chevrolet Suburban, Volt and GMC Yukon XL.

Specifically, the affected seat belts do not automatically lock when the seatbelt is completely pulled out of the retractor. Although the issue with the retractor does not affect the emergency locking function of the seat belt, it does potentially affect how securely a car seat can be installed. Improper installation can increase the risk of injury to children involved in motor vehicle crashes.

Owners were to be notified by GM so that dealers could inspect the retractors and replace the ones affected by the recall, free of charge. The number for the recall is 18315. Owners may call customer service for more details:

1. Cadillac 800.458.8006
2. Chevrolet 800.222.1020
3. GMC 800.462.8782
TECH TIDBITS

CYBEX SEAT ADDS SENSORSAFE

SENSORSAFE is designed to alert parents when the harness comes undone, when a child is in the seat for a prolonged period of time and when the temperature in the car is too hot or too cold.

First introduced in Goodbaby’s Evenflo brand, SENSORSAFE technology can now be found on new models of the Cybex Sirona M convertible seat.

This is the first monitor system for Cybex iSize infant and child car seats. The chest clip is synced with the installed vehicle receiver and the caregiver’s smartphone.

FMVSS 213 UPDATES DELAYED BY GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Child passenger safety advocates who have been waiting on updates to FMVSS 213 will have to wait a little longer. Due to the recent government shut-down, the final rule on requirements for side-impact testing and the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for a new frontal impact bench and testing configuration have been postponed. Originally anticipated to be released in September 2019 and February 2019, respectively, the updates will be delayed by a month or more.

Specifics not yet available but certain to impact the field.

Course and Recertification Fee Increase

Course Fees:
Certification courses will increase from $85 to $95. This adjustment is the first since 2014. This will cover the cost associated with customer service, printing, shipping and fuel surcharges and continually improving the online system.

Recertification Fees:
The recertification fees will see a $5 increase for 2 years of CPS certification. This is the first adjustment since 2008. This will accommodate the annual increases in the direct expenses.
PRODUCT UPDATES

BRITAX
- The expiration date is now included on the label with the seat’s model number and date of manufacture.
- The Essentials brand is being phased out.
- New fabrics that are easier to clean are being introduced on some models.
- us.britax.com

CLEK
- Clek will be introducing its first rear-facing only car seat this year. The Liing is designed for children 4-35 lbs. It is equipped with rigid LATCH connectors, a load leg, seven recline positions and a cover made of Merino wool.
- MSRP: $399
- www.clekin.com

DIONO
- The tether adjuster is closer to the vehicle tether anchor in new models, making it easier to adjust in some vehicles.
- Belt paths and instructions are color-coded blue for rear-facing and red for forward-facing.
- Wool covers, which are flame retardant, are available as upgrades.

GOODBABY
- SensorSafe technology is being featured in brands other than Evenflo, including CYBEX, Urbini and GB.
- CYBEX is introducing its first all-in-one car seat, the Eternis S. The car seat can be used rear-facing 4-50 lbs., forward-facing 22-65 lbs. and as a highback booster 40-120 lbs.
- MSRP: $379.99
- www.gbinternational.com
PRODUCT UPDATES

Merritt Manufacturing
● The Angel Ride car bed is coming in April.

UPPAbaby
● The company is expanding its line by adding the Knox, a convertible seat, and the Alta, a highback booster seat.
● The Knox convertible seat is designed to be used rear-facing 14-40 lbs. and forward-facing 25-65 lbs. and up to 49 inches. Universal tether can be used rear-facing.
● MSRP: $399
● The Alta highback booster seat is designed for children who are at least 5 years old up to 10 years, weigh 40-100 lbs. and are 38” - 57”. It has rigid LATCH connectors and a lap belt positioner.
● MSRP: $179
● uppababy.com

WAYB
● The company will be launching its first product, the Pico portable car seat, this year. The Pico is a lightweight, folding alternative to traditional car seats. It can be used forward facing 22-55 lbs.and is an option for carpools, taxis etc.
● MSRP:
● www.wayb.com

For more complete information on new and improved products, visit the manufacturers’ websites.
These courses are designed to help Indiana’s certified child passenger safety technicians and instructors stay current with the most up-to-date information in the child passenger safety field, while reviewing CPS concepts and earning CEUs. This course includes a hands-on session during which you will be able to demonstrate technical skills and have an opportunity to complete the five car seat installation scenarios required for recertification.

Registration is free but is required because space is limited.

The technical updates will be held (click on appropriate course to register):

- **July 31st**: Central Refresher Course @ Marion County Public Health Department – 4012 N. Rural Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205

- **August 2nd**: Northwest Refresher Course @ Franciscan Health Crown Point Marian Education Center, 1201 S. Main St., Crown Point, IN 46307

- **August 20th**: Northeast Refresher Course @ Safe Kids Elkhart County-Elkhart County Sheriff’s Department-Training Room: 26861 CR 26, Elkhart, IN 46517

- **Pending Date**: Southeast Refresher Course- Are you interested in hosting? Please contact Marsha French, mwheatcr@iu.edu

- **Pending Date**: Evansville Refresher Course @ St. Vincent Hospital-St. Mary’s: 3700 Washington Avenue Suite 1100: Evansville, In 47750

- **Pending Date**: Fort Wayne Refresher Course @ Dupont Resource Center: 2514 E Dupont Rd., Suite 210, Fort Wayne, IN 46825
SAFE KIDS INDIANA

SAFE KIDS WEEK

Safe Kids Week (5/5-5/11) is an annual awareness and fundraising initiative to prevent injuries. This year, it coincides with Global Road Safety Week (5/6-5/12).

Coalitions are encouraged to personalize an event to focus on a risk area most important to your community, Bike to School Day, or Global Road Safety Week. Safe Kids Worldwide will run a national social media campaign and launch a website where you can register your local events.

For more information please contact Ali Flury at aflury@safekids.org.

BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

Are you looking for additional funding for your Bike to School Day event?

Safe Kids Worldwide, with support from Bell, has an exciting new grant opportunity for the 2019 Bike to School Day program. Safe Kids will award grants to U.S. coalitions to host a Bike Safety event on National Bike to School Day, Wednesday, May 8, 2019.

Coalitions will partner with local volunteers to hold a highly visible event teaching bike safety. Participating coalitions receive a Bike to School Day banner, bike safety tip sheet (PDF), 200 reflective stickers, helmet fit test handouts, Bell bike helmets, planning checklist, social media guide and a $200 grant to support expenses for this day. Applications are due, March 25th.

For additional information, contact Joshua Ogboenyiya at jogboenyiya@safekids.org or visit the Program Management Tool here.
MEET THE NEW STATE CPS COORDINATOR

Rosy Hyre is the new State CPS Coordinator. She will be a resource for certification as well as the recertification process by developing, coordinating and promoting recertification opportunities, and supporting child passenger safety trainings throughout the state. Rosy has been a certified child passenger safety technician for the last six years.

Previously, Rosy was a Program Support Specialist at the IU School of Medicine Safety Store where she assessed families for injury prevention needs, organized and taught injury prevention workshops, and served as a liaison with several departments inside Riley Hospital for Children and other organizations.