Dear Mr. President,

Today’s resignation of Dr. Steven Cliff as Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is deeply concerning at a time when traffic fatalities have climbed to historically high levels. As the nation’s leading roadway safety organizations, we respectfully urge you to swiftly nominate a new Administrator to fill this important role.

Preliminary estimates show deaths climbing to a 16-year high of 42,915 in 2021 – 10,000 more lives lost than just a decade ago. It is essential that a new NHTSA nominee has roadway and vehicle safety expertise and is focused on pursuing and implementing countermeasures that will work to address the current crisis.

The recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides funding and a number of tools for NHTSA to move aggressively to prevent roadway fatalities and injuries from both a human behavior and regulatory standpoint. NHTSA needs a nominated and confirmed Administrator as soon as possible to immediately implement IIJA safety measures and protect the traveling public.

Sincerely,

Cc: Secretary Pete Buttigieg