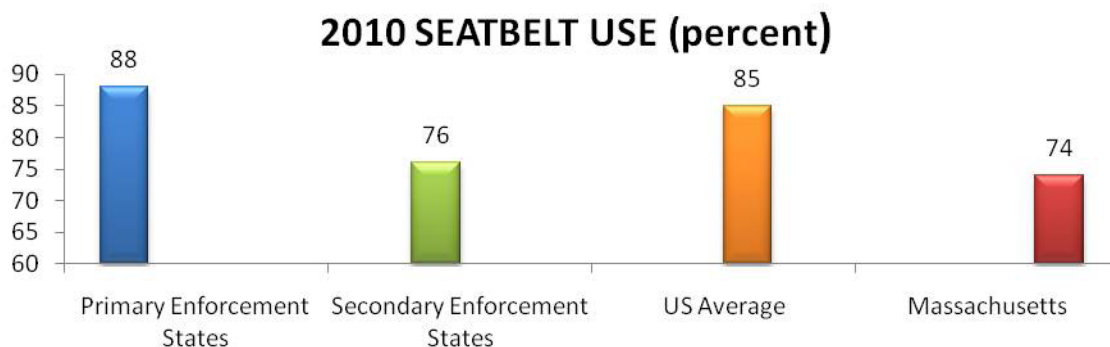




2011 Massachusetts Primary Seat Belt Bill “Natalie’s Bill” - Bill#: HB 2401/ SB 1211 (Public Safety Committee)

- 1. Primary seat belt enforcement will save Massachusetts millions of dollars.**
 - Over \$170 million total savings annually: medical, productivity and property
 - \$55 million annual private health insurance savings
 - \$13.6 million in federal transportation grants if signed by 6/30/11 and in effect by 9/30/11
- 2. Primary seat belt enforcement will save lives in Massachusetts**
 - Increased seat belt use will save 18 lives each year
 - Over 650 serious injuries per year will be prevented
- 3. Massachusetts seat belt use is unacceptably low**
 - Massachusetts use rate: 74% (ranks 48th in the nation)
 - National average use rate: 85%
 - Primary enforcement will increase belt use by approximately 11 percentage pts.
 - Unbelted passengers act as projectiles; they increase the risk of injury to belted drivers by 40%
- 4. Primary enforcement reduces racial disparities in seat belt use and related injuries, and does NOT change race-based ticketing**
 - Studies from California, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, Oklahoma and Michigan all reached similar conclusions
 - Primary enforcement is supported by Urban League, National Conference of Black Mayors and National Hispanic Council on Aging



For more information or to join BEST, contact co-chairs:
Dr. Greg Parkinson • gparkinson@massmed.org • 508-540-1801
Mary Maguire • mmaguire@aaasne.com • 401-865-9414



Remembering Natalie De Leon (1985-2006)

Natalie De Leon was a vibrant 21 year-old woman. On July 2nd, 2006, Natalie and her boyfriend were on their way to visit a friend when her boyfriend was forced to swerve and their car rolled over. They were not speeding or using alcohol, but Natalie, who was not buckled in, was ejected from the car and was killed.

“The Friends of Natalie” was started by her mother, Beatriz Fuentes, in order to raise awareness of the importance of seat belt use. “If my daughter’s tragedy can save lives and prevent brain injury, she will not have died in vain,” says Beatriz.

For this reason, BEST has dedicated this bill to Natalie and her family. With your help and support, we will see “Natalie’s Bill” passed by the Massachusetts legislature this session.



TAKE ACTION

Contact the Public Safety Committee Chairs:

Senator James Timilty
c/o State House
Room 507
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-1222
james.timilty@masenate.gov

Representative Harold Naughton
c/o State House
Room 167
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2230
harold.naughton@mahouse.gov

Find your State Representative and Senator at:

<http://www.malegislature.gov/People/FindMyLegislator>

Tell them you support “Natalie’s Bill” and Primary Seat Belt Enforcement.



GET INVOLVED

Join us on Facebook by clicking on the “like” icon at

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/I-Support-a-Primary-Seat-Belt-Law-in-Massachusetts/130169690369797>



BEST Coalition Members

Alcohol Substance Abuse Program
Adaptive Driver Program
American College of Surgeons - Massachusetts Chapter
American College of Surgeons - Massachusetts Chapter of the Committee on Trauma
AAA Southern New England
Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety
American Insurance Association
American Academy of Pediatrics - Massachusetts Chapter
Anna Jaques Hospital Medical Staff
Baystate Franklin Medical Center
Baystate Mary Lane Hospital
Baystate Medical Center
Boston Medical Center
Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts
Brigham & Women's Hospital Trauma Service
Cape Cod Hospital
Cape & Islands End Driving Deaths Among Youth
Caritas Christi Hospital Emergency Physicians
Children's Hospital Boston
Falmouth Hospital Medical Staff
Friends of Natalie
Injury Free Coalition of Worcester
Lahey Clinic Trauma Service
MADD Massachusetts
Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association
Massachusetts Emergency Nurses Association
Massachusetts Fire Chiefs
Massachusetts General Hospital Trauma Service
Massachusetts Health Council
Massachusetts Hospital Association
Massachusetts Medical Society
Massachusetts SADD
Medford Police
Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute
National Traffic Safety Board
Spaulding Rehabilitation Network
Safe Kids Western Massachusetts
Safe Roads Alliance
St. Luke's Hospital Medical Staff
Tufts NEMC Trauma Service
University of Massachusetts Medical Center Trauma Service