

STATE SENATOR • RAYMOND E. BASHAM • 8TH DISTRICT

Basham Press Release

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Basham Hosts Child Passenger Safety Day

New Child Safety Law Prompts Event Aimed to Educate Parents on Vehicle Safety

LANSING—Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor), together with the Michigan State Police-Metro South Post, Oakwood Healthcare, AAA of Michigan, State Farm Insurance and McDonald's announced today that they will be holding a child passenger safety awareness event on May 17, 2008. The program will give away free booster seats and educate parents on a new law that will take effect on July 1, 2008 that requires children ages 4-8 years old and under 4'9" tall be seated in a booster seat while riding in a motor vehicle.

"Through this law, we hope to prevent thousands of deaths and injuries inflicted on children each year from car accidents," said Sen. Basham. "Child safety seats, when properly fitted and installed, can help save a child's life. Every parent should be aware of this and take action to protect their children."

"Children who ride unrestrained are three times more likely to sustain significant injury in a crash when compared with children who are restrained," said State Farm Vice President Luke Griffin. "We hope this event helps educate parents and caregivers on how to properly restrain their children in vehicles."

Child Passenger Safety Day will provide parents with a limited supply of car and booster seats, donated by AAA of Michigan, Oakwood Healthcare and State Farm Insurance. Children will also have the opportunity to be measured and properly fitted to booster seats by Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. A limited number of free booster seats will be available to children who are present at the event. Michigan State Police-Metro South Post members will be on hand to demonstrate to parents how to properly fit and install a child safety seat, and medical professionals will also be available to speak to parents and caregivers about the risks associated with the failure to use or properly install child safety seats.

"I appreciate the efforts of Senator Basham and our event partners in providing local parents with the tools they need to keep their kids safe," said Michigan State Police-Metro South Post Commander Monica Yesh. "The Metro South Post looks forward to working in conjunction with our partners to improve public safety in southeast Michigan."

The child safety event is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

at the Michigan State Police-Metro South Post located at 12111 Telegraph Road in Taylor. For more information regarding this event, parents may contact Senator Basham's office at 517-373-7800 or by email at senbasham@senate.michigan.gov.

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