

**Statement of Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Member Debbie
Dingell
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade**

Hearing on “Looking Under the Hood: The State of NHTSA and Motor Vehicle Safety”

June 26, 2025

Thank you, Ranking Member Pallone.

As many of you know, I’m a car girl — born and raised in Michigan, the heart of the American auto industry.

Our auto industry needs certainty. For too long, it has been treated like a political football, caught between Administrations, with rules and regulations constantly changing. That’s not how we support long-term investment, protect jobs, and stay competitive in a global marketplace that is moving full-speed toward electrification and advanced vehicle technologies.

For decades, Congress has worked in a bipartisan way to strengthen auto safety. For us to do that, we need a fully functioning NHTSA. That means finalizing long-overdue rules to require advanced impaired driving prevention technology in new vehicles. NHTSA must also be proactive in addressing emerging vehicle technologies. Autonomous and connected vehicles are no longer a far-off future. They are here today. And without strong oversight, we risk gaps in regulation that bad actors and foreign adversaries could exploit at the expense of consumer safety and privacy.

Safety should never be partisan. We all drive the same roads. I look forward to working together to support NHTSA, advance vehicle safety and innovation, protect consumers, and keep the American auto industry globally competitive.

I yield back.