

CONGRESSMAN JOE NEGUSE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
MEMBER DAY TESTIMONY
December 12, 2025

Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, and distinguished members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on my legislation before your committee.

Cyclist and pedestrian deaths in the U.S. remain far too high. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data for 2022 showed cyclist deaths were the highest ever recorded, at 1,105 deaths¹. We have a real solution for these terrible and unnecessary tragedies: **the Magnus White Cyclist Safety Act (H.R.3649)**, a bill that would require all passenger vehicles to have Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) systems that can detect bicycles, motorcycles, and other vulnerable road users.

This bill is named after Magnus White, an incredible cyclist for Team USA, who was tragically killed when a driver hit him while on a training ride just days before he was set to compete in the world championships. By requiring AEB systems that can detect all vulnerable road users to be installed in all vehicles, we can prevent senseless tragedies and protect both vehicle occupants and vulnerable road users alike.

In fact, most auto manufacturers are already rolling out this technology. The company that owns popular U.S. brands like Dodge and Jeep just added the largest number of AEB-equipped new vehicles to its offerings.²

Additionally, I'd like to bring attention to the uptick we continue to see in West Nile virus deaths³. As such, I urge the committee to support research for innovative and novel technology by providing the CDC with additional funding to combat the spread of dangerous mosquito-borne and vector-borne diseases, as is included in my bill, the **Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health (SMASH) 2.0 Act**. Similar language was incorporated in the 118th Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization bills in both the House (H.R.10445) and Senate (S.2333).

¹ <https://usa.streetsblog.org/2024/04/02/the-latest-pedestrian-and-cyclist-fatality-stats-are-deadly-deja-vu>

² <https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/car-safety/more-automakers-make-aebr-a-standard-feature-on-most-models-a2486269627/>

³

<https://www.ama-assn.org/public-health/infectious-diseases/west-nile-virus-deaths-32-2025#:~:text=%E2%80%9CIn%202025%2C%20there's%20been%20a,%E2%80%9D%20Dr.%20Kaufman%20West%20said.>

I also request the Committee's consideration of **Ally's Act (H.R. 4606)**, legislation I introduced with Rep. Fitzpatrick. Ally's Act is named after a young Coloradan and former constituent who wrote to my office about issues she and her family were facing obtaining insurance coverage for her hearing devices. Ally was born with microtia and aural atresia, which require different types of devices than a traditional hearing aid. Despite the medical necessity of osseointegrated devices (OIDs) for people who experience different forms of hearing loss, these devices are frequently denied insurance coverage.

H.R. 4606 would ensure access to these critical hearing devices. I appreciate the bipartisan and bicameral support we have received for this bill, and request that you consider the bill in a legislative hearing.

I have also introduced the **Recycling and Composting Accountability Act(H.R. 4109)**, to strengthen America's recycling and composting infrastructure. The bill would enhance data collection of recycling and composting infrastructure barriers around the country, and generate a comprehensive baseline of the U.S. recycling system. This bipartisan bill is part of the STEWARD Act (S. 351), which unanimously passed the Senate in November. I appreciate the committee's interest in recycling, and ask that you swiftly markup the bill.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to submit these priorities to the committee. I request that you consider including these bills in an upcoming legislative vehicle or moving them as individual bills. I look forward to working with the committee on these issues.

Sincerely,

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress