

I'm reaching out to ask you to cosponsor the ***DOT Victim & Survivor Advocate Act*** ([S.4314/HR.8349](#)) -- legislation which will provide a voice at the Department of Transportation for families of victims and survivors of roadway crashes. This is important to me because. . .

On average, 42,075 people die on our roads every year, while 170,280 people are injured. Many of these deaths are preventable and those who have lost loved ones are often motivated to advocate for change.

That's why Senator Lujan and Congressman Cohen introduced this bill in May 2024 -- to establish the position of a National Roadway Safety Advocate, who will enable victims and survivors to advocate *more effectively*. The purposes of this position will be:

1. to document and communicate recommendations from stakeholders to the Secretary on needs, objectives, plans, approaches, content, and accomplishments of the programs and activities carried out by the Department relating to roadway safety; and
2. to serve as a resource and point of contact for stakeholders on roadway safety issues.

The National Roadway Safety Advocate will essentially serve as a liaison between the Department of Transportation and crash victims and survivors, helping facilitate communication -- thereby helping the Department to reach its goal of reducing roadway deaths and injuries.

I hope that you will thoughtfully review the legislation and become a cosponsor.