

**HB**

**308**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 308</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
308</SUBJECT><COMM>SJUD29</COMM></TARGET>

# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/11/16

FURTHER: Rules  
 DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 4/17/16

Judiciary Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 308 am

## HB 308-CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSTALLATION LIABILITY

"An Act relating to the limitation of liability for the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child safety seat or in providing education regarding the installation or adjustment of a child safety seat; and relating to child safety devices in motor vehicles.

and recommends:

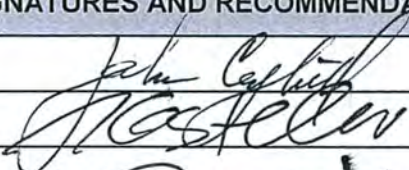
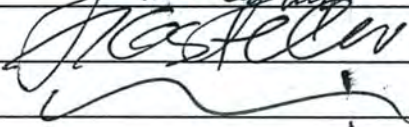
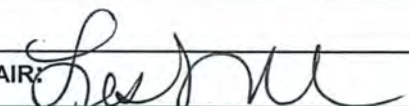
- be replaced with SCS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  Technical Title Change  
 New Title/SCR No. \_\_\_\_\_
- adopt previous SCS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  Technical Title Change  
 New Title/SCR No. \_\_\_\_\_
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

| Dept Abbr. |     |
|------------|-----|
| ADM        | LWF |
| CED        | LAW |
| COR        | LEG |
| EED        | MVA |
| DEC        | DNR |
| DFG        | DPS |
| GOV        | REV |
| DHS        | DOT |
| AJS        | UA  |

| NEW FISCAL NOTE(S) |        |        |      |      |
|--------------------|--------|--------|------|------|
| Dept.              | Fiscal | Indet. | Zero | FN # |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |
|                    |        |        |      |      |

| PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S) |        |        |      |      |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|------|------|
| Dept.                   | Fiscal | Indet. | Zero | FN # |
| LAW                     |        |        | ✓    | 1    |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |
|                         |        |        |      |      |

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

| SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:  | PRINTED LAST NAME | DO PASS | DO NOT PASS | NO REC | AMEND |
|--|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------|-------|
|         | COSTELLO          | ✓       |             |        |       |
|         | WIELECHOWSKI      | ✓       |             |        |       |
|  |                   |         |             |        |       |
|  |                   |         |             |        |       |
| CHAIR:  | MCGUIRE           | ✓       |             |        |       |

# Alaska Legislature

## Representative Charisse Millett

### Session:

State Capitol Building  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone (907) 465-3879  
Fax (907) 465-2069  
Toll free (888) 269-3879



### Interim:

Anchorage LIO  
716 W 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone (907) 269-0222  
Fax (907) 269-0223

### *District 25*

### House Bill 308 Sponsor Statement

Motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death and injury among children in the United States. However, many of these deaths are preventable with the correct installation and use of child passenger safety devices, like car seats or booster seats. Car seat use reduces the risk for death to infants by 71%; and to toddlers by 54% in passenger vehicles. Booster seat use reduces the risk for serious injury by 45% for children aged 4–8 years when compared with seat belt use alone. The correct installation of any of these devices can alter their effectiveness dramatically, but many parents or caregivers accidentally misuse child restraints due to their complicated, unwieldy nature.

In Alaska, the Child Passenger Safety Coalition has made the goal of protecting children traveling on the roadways of Alaska their priority. Members include healthcare professionals, firefighters, paramedics, law enforcement officers, injury prevention professionals, health and safety personnel, educators, parents, businesses, foundations, policymakers, and volunteers. Their team of Child Passenger Safety Technicians perform checks and help with the installation of child passenger safety devices for any new or interested parent or caregiver. Technicians are certified after successfully completing a 3 or 4-day program of classroom and hands-on work with child restraints and motor vehicles then demonstrate their skills at a community CPS check-up event. The resulting certification as a Child Passenger Safety Technician is nationally recognized and valid for 2 years.

However, recruitment of new technicians can be difficult due to a lack of liability protection. To remedy this deficit of trained safety experts who provide essential assistance to parents, caregivers, and most importantly children, House Bill 308 limits the civil liability of certified technicians, or those who facilitate their program, in the case that an accident results from an act or omission in the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child passenger safety device. With the goal of having our state's children safe and secured in their car seats and booster seats, this bill hopes to increase the numbers of those who can effectively install and inspect devices and direct liability to those who actually commit wrongful, criminal acts.

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### Session:

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*District 25*

House Bill 308  
Sectional Analysis Version A

### Section 1:

Provides that the following are not civilly liable in the case of an act or omission that occurs in the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child safety seat or in providing education regarding the installation or adjustment of a child safety seat:

- A certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST)
- A person who arranges or offers the services of a CPST for the community
- A person who owns property where a CPST is operating

A CPST must offer their services for free or for the amount of their actual costs, in good faith, and within the scope of their training. They may also not be sponsored by a child passenger safety device manufacturer or retailer.

### Section 2:

Applicability clause.

**AMENDMENT**

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE  
TO: HB 308

REPRESENTATIVES WOOL AND MILLETT

1 Page 1, line 3, following "seat":

2 Insert "; and relating to child safety devices in motor vehicles"

3

4 Page 2, following line 23:

5 Insert a new bill section to read:

6 **\*\* Sec. 2.** AS 28.05.095(b) is amended to read:

7 (b) Except as provided in (c) of this section, a driver may not transport a child  
8 under the age of 16 in a motor vehicle unless the driver has provided the required  
9 safety device and properly secured each child as described in this subsection. A child

10 (1) less than one year of age or a child one year of age or older who  
11 weighs less than 20 pounds shall be properly secured in a rear-facing child safety seat  
12 that meets or exceeds standards of the United States Department of Transportation and  
13 is used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;

14 (2) one or more years of age but less than **four** [FIVE] years of age  
15 who weighs 20 pounds or more shall be properly secured in a child restraint device  
16 that meets or exceeds the standards of the United States Department of Transportation  
17 and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;

18 (3) over four years of age but less than eight years of age who is less  
19 than 57 inches in height and weighs 20 or more pounds but less than 65 pounds shall  
20 be properly secured in a booster seat that is secured by a seat belt system or by another  
21 child passenger restraint system that meets or exceeds the standards of the United  
22 States Department of Transportation and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's  
23 instructions;

1                   (4) over four years of age who exceeds the height or weight  
2 requirements in (3) of this subsection shall be properly secured in a seat belt;

3                   (5) eight years of age but less than 16 years of age who does not  
4 exceed the height and weight requirements in (3) of this subsection shall be properly  
5 secured in a child safety device approved for a child of that size by the United States  
6 Department of Transportation or in a safety belt, whichever is appropriate for the  
7 particular child as determined solely by the driver."

8

9 Renumber the following bill section accordingly.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2016 Legislative Session

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Bill Version:       | HB 308    |
| Fiscal Note Number: | 1         |
| (H) Publish Date:   | 3/29/2016 |

Identifier: HB308-LAW-CIV-03-25-16  
 Title: CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSTALLATION LIABILITY  
 Sponsor: MILLETT  
 Requester: House Labor & Commerce

Department: Department of Law  
 Appropriation: Civil Division  
 Allocation: Torts & Workers' Compensation  
 OMB Component Number: 2719

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

|                               | FY2017<br>Appropriation<br>Requested | Included in<br>Governor's<br>FY2017<br>Request | Out-Year Cost Estimates |            |            |            |            |            |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                               |                                      |  | FY 2017                 | FY 2018    | FY 2019    | FY 2020    | FY 2021    | FY 2022    |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b> |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Personal Services             |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                        |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Services                      |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Commodities                   |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Capital Outlay                |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Benefits             |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous                 |                                      |  |                         |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>Total Operating</b>        | <b>0.0</b>                           | <b>0.0</b>                                     | <b>0.0</b>              | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

|              |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| None         |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

**Positions**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|                           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Change in Revenues</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*  
*(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*  
*(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:**

|                                  |
|----------------------------------|
| Initial version, not applicable. |
|----------------------------------|

|              |                                     |        |                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| Prepared By: | Valerie Rose, Budget Analyst        | Phone: | (907)465-3674       |
| Division:    | Administrative Services Division    | Date:  | 03/25/2016 01:49 PM |
| Approved By: | Craig W. Richards, Attorney General | Date:  | 03/25/16            |
| Agency:      | Department of Law                   |        |                     |

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**Analysis**

HB 308 (proposed Alaska Statute 09.65.094) grants immunity from civil liability for persons who participate in the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child safety seat, or who provide education regarding the installation or adjustment of a child safety seat, as long as certain conditions are met. In order for immunity to attach, the person must either have completed (and maintain) training offered by the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training program, or must have arranged a non-profit educational program for the public by a certified technician, or must own property where a nonprofit education program or event, run by a certified technician, is taking place. In addition, the services provided must be without a fee, must be conducted in good faith, and must be within the scope of the training for which the technician is certified. The legislation would not apply to for civil actions for damages which involve gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct, nor does it apply if the inspection, installation, or adjustment of the child safety seat happens in conjunction with the sale of a child safety seat. Finally, the legislation does not apply to manufacturers of child safety seats, nor to their agents or employees.

The Department of Law does not foresee a fiscal impact should this legislation pass.

**Testimony of Anthony Green, Director of Public Policy, Safe Kids Worldwide,  
on HB308 Relating to Immunity for Car Seat Technicians  
In the Legislature of the State of Alaska  
March 28, 2016**

I want to thank Leader Millett for inviting Safe Kids Worldwide to participate in this hearing and, more importantly, to express our appreciation to Leader Millett for her leadership in introducing HB308. I also want to applaud the voice and work of Sara Penisten, our coalition leader in the State of Alaska.

The effort to place children in car seats has been part of the equation which has reduced road fatalities involving kids 19 and under by 55% between 2000 and 2014. "Buckling up" both child restraints and seat belts has saved many lives. When installed and used correctly, child safety seats and safety belts save lives. Child safety seats can reduce fatal injury by up to 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers (ages 1 to 4). However, a car seat which is installed incorrectly can be useless.

Are car seats installed incorrectly? Yes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration conducted a nationwide field study in 2011 based on 4,167 inspections and driver interviews, and found that 46% of car seats were installed or used incorrectly. If a child restraint system is not used correctly, it may be 46 percent less effective in providing protection in the event of a crash. And this is why the work of child passenger safety technicians is so important.

Let me share a brief story about two children in another cold place, Wisconsin. It was June, 2014 when Bethany Olson and her two children survived a severe crash in Baldwin, Wisconsin colliding with a cattle trailer. Two-year-old Gunner was released from the hospital the same day while 14-month-old Emmajean was treated for a traumatic brain injury and has now fully recovered. Two weeks before the crash, their mother attended a car seat check-up event to make sure the seats were placed in the car properly. When the crash occurred, the kids were properly seated and Mrs. Olson credits the correct car seat placement for saving the lives of her kids. I can tell you a similar story about a Maine child in a seat which had been recently checked by a technician who survived a rollover crash with barely a scratch.

This would not be possible but for the work of child seat technicians, a large majority of whom are volunteers. Safe Kids Worldwide is the entity which runs the education program that certifies the technicians to do their work. It is a rigorous course and continuing education is required.

The men and women who conduct this service do so largely as volunteers. Immunity from civil liability should not be granted lightly. We appreciate that Leader Millett has carefully drafted a bill which strikes an appropriate balance. It would be enjoyed by currently certified technicians for no fee for their work and when act in good faith, and provides similar immunity to organizations who set up the event or hold it on their property. The immunity would not apply when a check-up event is held in concert with the for-profit sale of a car seat, nor would it cover gross negligence.

We are aware of no case which has been filed involving a car seat technician in the line of duty, and we hope that this grant of immunity will never be used. However, for this special class of volunteers providing a life-saving purpose, this provision of immunity is appropriate and appreciated. It provides them with a safe harbor to do their important volunteer work. We hope the Legislature will pass HB308.

Anthony Green  
Safe Kids Worldwide  
Director, Public Policy  
[agreen@safekids.org](mailto:agreen@safekids.org) | 202.662.0606

March 3, 2016

*Terri Nelson*  
125 Snowman Lane  
North Pole, Alaska 99705  
[trnelson@northpolepolice.org](mailto:trnelson@northpolepolice.org)  
907-488-6902

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Millett,

Thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 308, An Act relating to the limitation of liability for the inspection, installation, or adjustment of a child safety seat or in providing education regarding the installation or adjustment of a child safety seat. I am currently certified as a Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Technician in Alaska, and serve as a resource for parents and caregivers in my community.

Statewide data collected annually since 2008 reveals that in Alaska, there is an 85% car seat misuse rate among those seats that are inspected. This means that more than 4 out of 5 car seats are used incorrectly in some way! Although CPS inspection services are available from Ketchikan to Kodiak, Soldotna to Fairbanks, and other locations in between and throughout our vast state, my fellow CPS Technicians and I have more work to do. New parents are born every day, and car seats are confusing! The Alaska Child Passenger Safety Coalition's website, [www.carseatsak.org](http://www.carseatsak.org), serves as a resource for all caregivers. However, hands-on assistance with the correct use and installation of child safety seats is vital. All too often, communities are without certified CPS Technicians due to fear of liability and no agency support of volunteer CPS activities.

I urge you and your staff to seek the full support of HB No. 308 from the entire membership of the Legislature during the current session, to enable HB No. 308 to become law. The benefit to rural communities will be greatest. Potential CPS Technicians who have no specific agency sponsorship for CPS roles may be more inclined to be trained and serve as CPS resources for their villages if they are not burdened with unnecessary liability risk. I believe that in supporting this bill you will impact the lives of Alaskan children, both now and for generations to come.

I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

*Terri Nelson*

**From:** [Rep. Charisse Millett](#)  
**To:** [Lindsey Whitt](#)  
**Subject:** FW: House Bill No.308  
**Date:** Thursday, March 03, 2016 1:04:51 PM

---

Lindsey Whitt  
Legislative Staffer  
Office of Representative Charisse Millett  
Main: 907.269-0222  
Direct: 907.465.6588  
[Lindsey.Whitt@akleg.gov](mailto:Lindsey.Whitt@akleg.gov)

**From:** Odemus Willow [mailto:[odemus1@hotmail.com](mailto:odemus1@hotmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 03, 2016 11:18 AM  
**To:** Rep. Charisse Millett <[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)>  
**Subject:** House Bill No.308

March 2, 2016

Amanda Ferrara  
5099 W Karsten Dr  
Wasilla AK. 99625  
[Odemus1@hotmail.com](mailto:Odemus1@hotmail.com)  
I (907) 376-0714

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)

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website, [www.carseatsak.org](http://www.carseatsak.org), serves as a resource for all caregivers. However, hands-on assistance with the correct use and installation of child safety seats is vital. All too often, communities are without certified CPS Technicians due to fear of liability and no agency support of volunteer CPS activities.

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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Ferrara

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S@6 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

March 2, 2016

*Amanda Seethaler*  
5517 Cape Seville Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
amandaseethaler@yahoo.com  
907-306-1796

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
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State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
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[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)

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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

*Amanda Seethaler*

March 7, 2016

*Andrea Konik*  
4300 Bartlett St  
Homer, AK 99603  
[akonik@sphosp.org](mailto:akonik@sphosp.org)  
907-317-1941

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
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Sincerely in safety,

*Andrea Konik, CPST*

March 2, 2016

Beth Schuerman  
744 O Place  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Beth.schuerman@gmail.com  
907-244-1123

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

Beth Schuerman

March 2, 2016

Gwendolynne Teutsch  
5661 E. Revolutionary Way  
Wasilla. AK 99654  
[Sundog\\_girl@yahoo.com](mailto:Sundog_girl@yahoo.com)  
907-357-6469

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millet@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millet@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Millett,

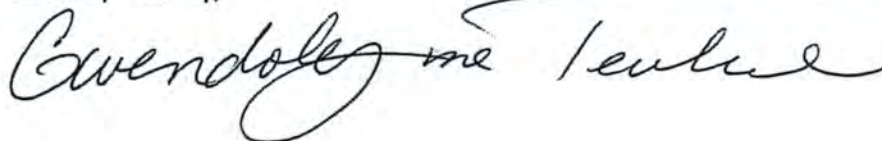
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Sincerely in safety,



March 2, 2016

*Hilario Alva*  
8809 Brookridge Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99504  
firevato@aim.com  
907-444-7017

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)

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Sincerely in safety,

*Hilario Alva*

March 7, 2016

Jane B. Fellman  
250 Hospital Place  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
[jfellman@cpqh.org](mailto:jfellman@cpqh.org)  
907-714-4539

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millet@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millet@akleg.gov)

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Sincerely in safety,

  
Jane Fellman RN/Coordinator Safe Kids Kenai Peninsula

March 2, 2016

*Jared Stiglich*  
18631 Citation Rd.  
Eagle River, AK 99577  
[stiglichJS@muni.org](mailto:stiglichJS@muni.org)

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
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[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)

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Sincerely in safety,

*Jared Stiglich*  
Anchorage Fire Department

March 3, 2016

June May, Health Educator  
P.O. Box 69  
Klawock, AK 99925  
junem@searhc.org  
907-755-4959

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)

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Sincerely in safety,

*June L. May, HE*

**From:** [Rep. Charisse Millett](#)  
**To:** [Lindsey Whitt](#)  
**Subject:** FW: H.B. #308  
**Date:** Thursday, March 03, 2016 1:04:41 PM

---

Lindsey Whitt  
Legislative Staffer  
Office of Representative Charisse Millett  
Main: 907.269-0222  
Direct: 907.465.6588  
[Lindsey.Whitt@akleg.gov](mailto:Lindsey.Whitt@akleg.gov)

**From:** landonforth@gmail.com [mailto:landonforth@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 03, 2016 11:38 AM  
**To:** Rep. Charisse Millett <Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: H.B. #308

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [landonforth@gmail.com](mailto:landonforth@gmail.com)  
**Date:** March 3, 2016 at 9:25:09 AM AKST  
**To:** [Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** H.B. #308

March 2, 2016

*Landon Forth*  
*3320 Wells Circle*  
*Anchorage, Alaska 99508*  
[\*landonforth@gmail.com\*](mailto:landonforth@gmail.com)  
*907-242-9957*

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett

House of Representatives

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204

Juneau, Alaska [99801-1182](tel:99801-1182)

[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)

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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician.

Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

*Landon Forth*

Sent from my iPhone

March 3, 2016

Lori Tyler  
231 S. Binkley Street  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
ltyler@kpb.us  
907-262-4792

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
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[Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)

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Sincerely in safety,



March 3, 2016

*Marialourdes Apilado*  
2203 Stockdale Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
[Apilado\\_mj@yahoo.com](mailto:Apilado_mj@yahoo.com)  
907-306-6263

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millette@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Millett,

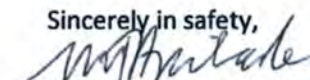
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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

  
Marialourdes Apilado

March 7, 2016

The Honorable Representative Charisse Millett  
House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100, Room 204  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov)

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I look forward to my continued work as a Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor. Again, I thank you for your sponsorship of HB No. 308, and for your advocacy on behalf of CPS Technicians statewide.

Sincerely in safety,

*Sara L. Penisten, RN*

Sara Penisten, RN, BSNS, CPSTI  
Injury Prevention Outreach Coordinator  
Safe Kids Alaska State Coalition Coordinator  
Providence Alaska Medical Center  
3200 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
Phone: 907-212-3194  
Email: [safekidsak@providence.org](mailto:safekidsak@providence.org)  
Web: [www.carseatsak.org](http://www.carseatsak.org)



Creating healthier communities, together

## Three-year-old Survives Rollover Crash

*Four Weeks After CPS Technicians Instructed Mom on Proper Car Seat Installation*

Portland, Maine—On the morning of January 15, 2016, a mother and her 3-year-old daughter were traveling on I-295 when another driver shifted into the same lane near Tuckeys Bridge and forced the mother into the guardrail, causing the car to overturn. The child was snugly secured in her car seat in the rear seat behind the mom and sustained slight injuries, while the mother sprained her wrist and received some bruises.

How did this potentially tragic crash become a good news story? Just four weeks earlier, the family attended a Safe Kids Maine car seat inspection stations. The car seat was recalled because of a defect in the buckle, specifically that it would get stuck after food and drinks leaked onto it.

The technician helped to correct the defect on the car seat by attaching the replacement buckle. In January 2016, Safe Kids Maine presented the family with a new car seat.

Immediately following the crash, mother Andrea Goodwin recalled her thoughts when she was sideways in the vehicle following the crash:

“Smelling burnt airbag powder and hearing my daughter’s cries in the background, all I could think was this was the end of our short life together. Then I remembered how just 4 weeks before I had attended a car seat safety check where the wonderful volunteers replaced a recalled buckle on my daughter’s car seat and properly installed her seat from rear facing to forward facing. This no doubt is what saved my daughter’s life and left her with only a few bruises.

“I will forever be grateful for these volunteers who took the time to properly install my daughters car seat, as if it was not for me attending this car seat check a few weeks earlier, my daughter might not have survived. I wish that all parents would take the 20 minutes to stop by one of these car seat checks and ensure their car seats are properly installed.”



*The crash scene.*



*Later, Safe Kids Maine presented Mom and child with a new car seat. From left, aunt Crystal Goodwin, niece Janiah, grandmother Susan Goodwin, and Janiah’s Mom Andrea Goodwin. At right is Suzanne Grace, Safe Kids Maine coordinator.*

**For more information contact:**

**Suzanne Grace, Safe Kids Maine, Coalition Coordinator, [sgrace@tallpinesafety.org](mailto:sgrace@tallpinesafety.org)**



# Alaska Dispatch News

Published on *Alaska Dispatch News* (<http://www.adn.com>)

[Home](#) > Car seat credited with saving ejected toddler's life in Anchorage collision

Chris Klint

January 12, 2016

## Main Image:

[Car seat credited with saving ejected infant's life in crash](#) <sup>[1]</sup>

## Main Image Credit:

Courtesy Tiffany Rowe

## Main Image Caption:

Nineteen-month-old Abigail Rowe is "doing well," according to mother Tiffany Rowe, after a Glenn Highway crash on Monday. Police say Abigail's car seat was ejected in the collision, which also injured three other people.

A 19-month-old girl's family says she is recovering after a Monday crash in which she and her car seat were thrown from a vehicle on the Glenn Highway.

Tiffany Rowe, Abigail Rowe's mother, said she was driving a silver Chevrolet Malibu on the Glenn Highway with her daughter Abigail and her mother, Candy Turner, as passengers when she was struck by a Ford pickup. Police said four people were injured in the collision, which occurred near Northway Mall just east of Airport Heights Drive at about 2:30 p.m. Monday.

"We were hit by the white F-150 who was traveling outbound as we were headed inbound," Rowe wrote Tuesday morning. "Abigail was ejected from the car in her car seat, which was strapped in correctly. Her arm is broken in two places, she has a lot of swelling, bruising and road rash."

The rear half of the Malibu, seen in photos taken at the scene, was destroyed in the collision. Rowe said the seat belt securing Abigail's car seat, an Evenflo Platinum Symphony LX, wasn't able to keep her in the vehicle.

"The car seatbelt was ripped from the car," Rowe wrote.

Abigail's uncle, Levi Simmons, called the crash a teaching moment for the value of properly restraining small children in car seats.

"If it wasn't for her being very properly fastened (with) her seat belt, I wouldn't have my niece anymore," Simmons wrote. "Abby can't even speak full sentences yet and she was an inch from her life. If her car seat wouldn't have been fastened, she would no longer be with us."



Police closed the highway between Airport Heights and Boniface Parkway for about five hours, reopening the road at about 7:30 p.m.

Anchorage police spokesperson Anita Shell said the department's traffic unit was still investigating the collision. No other information on the crash available Tuesday morning.

The Anchorage Fire Department said Tuesday it is offering free car seat inspections to ensure that seats are properly installed. Inspections can be scheduled by calling 907-267-5045.

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**Source URL:** <http://www.adn.com/article/20160112/car-seat-credited-saving-ejected-toddlers-life-anchorage-collision>

**Links:**

[1] <http://www.adn.com/image/car-seat-credited-saving-ejected-infants-life-crash>