



**Monthly Report** – August 2014 -- Vol. 2, No. 8 – ISSN 2332-063X

## Fixing Defective Safety in America

Louis V. Lombardo

There is a clear and present danger we face every day – here in the U.S.A. Crash deaths in the U.S. currently occur at a rate of nearly 100 per day. Serious crash injuries occur at the rate of nearly 400 per day. Crash injuries of all severities occur at a rate of about 6,000 per day. Societal losses from U.S. crash losses amount to more than \$2 Billion per day in the U.S.A. [1]

As I wrote in the July 2014 Monthly Report:

*The GM Recalls come at a time when the nation is celebrating its Declaration of Independence that held “Safety” as a fundamental purpose. During just the expected 8 years of President Obama’s Administration, the nation is on track to record nearly 250,000 crash deaths (more than twice the number of Americans killed in the Afghanistan, Iraq, Korean, and Viet Nam Wars -- combined). Plus 1 million serious crash injuries. And all crashes are expected to result in \$7 Trillion of societal losses in America during these eight years. [1]*

A national safety priority is needed to protect Americans from crash force violence that is killing, maiming, and costing enormous U.S. treasure.

### **Legislative Branch: Good Initiatives**

- Sen. Rockefeller: Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 2014 [2]
- Sen. McCaskill: Motor Vehicle and Highway Safety Enhancement Act of 2014 [3]
- Senators Markey & Blumenthal: Early Warning Reporting System Improvement Act of 2014 [4]

The Senate Commerce Committee has announced Hearings on NHTSA for September 16, 2014. [5] These are promising legislative initiatives deserving of more public notice and support.

- [1] <http://www.careforcrashvictims.com/assets/MonthlyReport-June-July-2014.pdf> and  
<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/812032.pdf> and <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/812013.pdf>
- [2] [http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Legislation&ContentRecord\\_id=e83c6a02-478b-482d-a748-06905c69111a](http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Legislation&ContentRecord_id=e83c6a02-478b-482d-a748-06905c69111a)
- [3] <http://www.mccaskill.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/MVHSEASummary.pdf>
- [4] <http://www.markey.senate.gov/news/press-releases/in-wake-of-gm-safety-recalls-markey-and-blumenthal-introduce-legislation-to-ensure-transparency-more-reporting-to-prevent-auto-injuries-fatalities>
- [5] [http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord\\_id=996ea5f8-5f6b-41f4-8f9e-1fae500fd98a&ContentType\\_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group\\_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a](http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord_id=996ea5f8-5f6b-41f4-8f9e-1fae500fd98a&ContentType_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a)