



March 10, 2023

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee  
The Honorable Jordan Kannianen, Chair  
North Dakota State Senate, State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismark, ND 58505

**Re: Please Amend H.1177 to Reinsert Exemption for Child Restraint Systems**

Dear Chair Kannianen and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee:

The Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) is a national not-for-profit trade organization representing 95% of the prenatal to preschool industry including the producers, importers, or distributors of a broad range of childcare articles that provide protection to infants and assistance to their caregivers. These products are sold globally and nationally, and consistency of safety regulations is a critical aspect of product development. Promoting baby safety is a key mission of the Association. We are the originator of Baby Safety Month, which occurs in September of each year and we are working year-round to ensure that caregivers are informed and children's safety is protected.

JPMA was disappointed to see that the sales tax exemption for child restraint systems was removed from this legislation in a previous Committee and respectfully urge you to reinstate this language as your Committee considers the bill. These products are essential for parents and their infants, and their accessibility and affordability is so important. Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of both hospitalization and death for American children, and crash statistics consistently show that approximately 40% of children killed are unrestrained. The proper selection, installation and use of restraints is a proven remedy, and equitable access to child restraints is a crucial factor.

We appreciate the legislature and sponsor's original interest in making these important children's products more affordable for families, and we would welcome the opportunity to support that initiative as the legislature considers it. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or to discuss ways that we can work collaboratively to improve children's safety – as it is our top priority.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Trofe, CAE  
Executive Director  
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association

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**JUVENILE PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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