



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**MASSACHUSETTS SENATE**

State House, Boston 02133-1053

**SENATOR STEVEN A. BADDOUR**

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VICE CHAIRMAN:  
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MEMBER:  
Post Audit & Oversight  
Children & Families  
Election Laws  
Municipalities & Regional Government

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Baddour and AAA push for Child Passenger Safety**

*Bill would require that children who have outgrown their child car seat utilize a booster seat*

June 20, 2007, Boston - Senator Steven Baddour (D-Methuen), Chairman of the Joint Committee on Transportation with AAA Southern New England will be hosting a press conference to highlight a bill calling for a booster seat law in the Commonwealth.

Senate Bill 2018 requires the use of booster seats for children through age seven, or 4'9" in height, whichever comes first.

Current law requires children up to age five and forty pounds to be in a child passenger restraint while a passenger in a motor vehicle. From age five through twelve, the law only requires the child to be fastened in a safety belt. Massachusetts' law falsely suggests to parents that it is safe for their children who are five, six and seven years old to be placed in an adult safety belt.

Studies show that nine-out-of-ten parents believe that if they adhere to their state's current child passenger safety law, they'll be taking the necessary steps to protect their children while in the car. Parents are being given a false sense of security by following the letter of the Commonwealth's law and in the process, unknowingly endangering their children.

38 States and Washington, D.C. have passed such laws.

**WHEN: THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2007, 10:00 a.m. (11:00 a.m. hearing follows in Room B-2).**

**WHERE: Senate Reading, State House**

**PARTICIPANTS:**

- **Transportation Committee Chairman Sen. Steven Baddour (D-Methuen)**
- **Arthur Kinsman, AAA Southern New England**
- **Trooper Kevin Packard, Massachusetts State Police Traffic Programs**
- **Dr. Paul Schreiber**
- **Dr. Greg Parkinson**
- **Wellesley Police Officer Mike Girard**