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Committee on Financial Services  
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Committee on Transportation &  
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Committee on Ethics



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Michael E. Capuano

7th District, Massachusetts

May 15, 2015

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The Honorable Mark R. Rosekind  
Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
West Building  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Dr. Rosekind,

A recent local media report has raised some questions about the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National Driver Register. It is my understanding that, while the NHTSA maintains this database, the identifying information it contains varies from state to state.

While I do believe the National Driver Register is a necessary component of the NHTSA's mission to prevent driver's license fraud around the country, I am concerned that the apparent lack of uniform requirements is leading to issues of mistaken identity.

I've included a copy of the news report from the WBZ I-Team, which highlighted the story of an individual who had great difficulty renewing his license in Massachusetts because officials believed he had violations in another state, based on apparently erroneous information. While that particular case has been resolved, it was not without much time and effort. Since the story aired on local television, other individuals have come forward reporting similar experiences.

I am writing to request that the NHTSA create minimum standards for information that states submit to the National Driver Register so that cases of mistaken matches can be reduced and easily corrected. It is my understanding that while some states require specific identifying information such as date of birth, other states simply provide a name and address. It is easy to see how cases of mistaken identity can occur.

The National Driver Register is an important tool that officials can use to help enhance the safety of both drivers and pedestrians. It will work best when all states have access to the same level of information, which will go a long way toward preventing cases of mistaken identity.

I thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael E. Capuano". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "C".

Michael E. Capuano