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Statement from the Attractions Industry regarding H.3727

Safety is the top priority of the amusement industry. Owners and operators of amusement devices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts continually deliver fun and safe entertainment to their guests. In so doing, owners and operators comply with a comprehensive statutory and regulatory scheme.

Under Massachusetts General Laws c. 140, sec. 205A, amusement devices must comply with safety standards established by the Commonwealth and amusement device operators must be licensed to operate in the Commonwealth. Prior to beginning operation each season, each amusement device is inspected by state inspectors, a third-party certified inspector and the amusement device owner's certified maintenance mechanic. Mobile amusement devices are inspected prior to operating at each new location. Both mobile and fixed amusement devices are inspected daily by both ride operators and maintenance personnel.

The current law and regulations require amusement device owners and operators to comply with the standards of the American Society for Testing Materials as well as any safety related manufacturer's recommendation. The American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) standards have become the norm both in the industry and across the country, as they cover each and every phase of the amusement device process: from design and manufacture to operation and inspection. They also include standards pertaining to safety restraints, which have been thoroughly researched and developed by experts in the field and tailored to the needs of each device. Massachusetts owners and operators have been, and remain at, the forefront of safety in the industry, working closely with regulators in the state.

Given the already existing complete regulatory scheme, which promotes the safe design, maintenance, inspection and operation of amusement devices, the proposed legislation, House No. 3727, is redundant and unnecessary. By adhering to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' statutory and regulatory requirements, amusement device owners and operators are meeting today's safety standards. The amusement industry looks forward to providing the public safe, fun and entertaining experiences over the summer and a great July 4th week.

NEAAPA is the nation's premier regional attractions association. Our mission is to serve our membership by promoting safe operations, regional development, professional growth, and commercial success of the amusement industry in New England. NEAAPA is dedicated to serving the parks, attractions and tourism industry for the purpose of improving the quality of the entertainment experience in the region by increasing the professionalism within the industry.

Proudly Supporting the Entertainment Industry in New England since 1913