



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

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This is the U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Tuesday, March 6 with an actuality on consumer rights and a story on an intensive traffic safety program.

The following actuality is for release after 4:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday.

Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Environment, Safety and Consumer Affairs, Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. today suggested that the automotive industry adopt a consumer Bill of Rights. He was speaking before the Motor and Equipment Manufacturers Association in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"Perhaps it is time for the automotive industry to adopt a kind of consumer's Bill of Rights. It could be based on President Nixon's Buyer's Bill of Rights which states that the buyer has:
...the right to make an intelligent choice among products and services.
...the right to accurate information on which to make a free choice.
...the right to expect that the health and safety of the buyer are taken into account by those who seek this patronage, and
...the right to register dissatisfaction and have a complaint heard and weighed when a buyer's interests are badly served.
You could apply those principles to the automobile industry and I would advocate serious thought toward such a proclamation this very year."

The following story is for release after 6:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday. It concerns a 10 million dollar nationwide intensive traffic safety enforcement program.

"Transportation Secretary Claude S. Brinegar has taken a step to counter the rising number of motor vehicle fatalities in this country. He's announced the allocation of \$10 million throughout the United States and Puerto Rico for an intensive traffic law enforcement program.

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"Secretary Brinegar said the action is necessary to combat the tragic increase in these deaths which has reached critical proportions. Last year, highway fatalities reached a new record -- 56,300 -- a 3% increase over the 1971 death toll.

"The funds, made available to States and communities on a matching basis, will be used in intensified traffic law enforcement efforts, related traffic court activities and public information programs."

For further information on this release call 202-426-9550.

This has been the Transportation News Report for Tuesday, March 6.

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