



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

BROADCAST NEWS SERVICE 73-233

Broadcast: Monday November 19, 1973

The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Monday, November 19, has an actuality with Assistant Secretary Davis on safety belts.

Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Environment, Safety and Consumer Affairs Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., spoke in Scottsdale, Arizona today to the Annual Highway and Traffic Conference of Western States. He pointed out that the Highway Safety Act offers incentive funding to States passing safety belt usage laws and reducing highway casualties.

"When we can get strong State laws, coupled with the new interlock system mandated on 1974 cars, then we will be giving the driving public a new lease on life. Our experts say it is provable that a person wearing a lap-shoulder belt has a ten times better chance of survival in a bad crash. We believe in the belt and we mean to exert all of the influence we can on the States to take wise legislative action."

#####