

*Frequency:* Annually.

**Kusum Dhyani,**

*Director, Office of Management Planning.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20514 Filed 10–6–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–57–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0299]

#### Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: 49 U.S.C. 5317 New Freedom Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: 49 U.S.C. 5317 New Freedom Program.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted before December 7, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Instructions:** You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any

personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <https://www.regulations.gov>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Destiny Buchanan at [destiny.buchanan@dot.gov](mailto:destiny.buchanan@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) the necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection.

**Title:** 49 U.S.C. 5317 New Freedom Program.

**OMB Number:** 2132–0565.

**Background:** The purpose of the New Freedom program was to make grants available to assist states and designated recipients to reduce barriers to transportation services and expand the transportation mobility options available to people with disabilities beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The New Freedom program was repealed in 2012 with the enactment of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP–21). However, funds previously authorized for programs repealed by MAP–21 remain available for their originally authorized purposes until the period of availability expires, the funds are fully expended, the funds are rescinded by Congress, or the funds are otherwise reallocated.

According to data from the Transit Award Management System (TrAMS), open grants have decreased to 13. This represents a 60% reduction in the

respondent universe from the previous PRA renewal cycle as FTA collaborates with grantees to close out legacy grants. As older grants are fully expended, project management report submissions continue to decline. This downward trend will persist until all remaining grants are closed.

To meet ongoing oversight responsibilities, FTA must continue to collect information while funds remain active. Grant recipients are required to make information available to the public and publish a program of projects identifying the subrecipients and projects receiving financial assistance. FTA uses this information to monitor grantee progress in implementing and completing project activities.

**Respondents:** State or local government, private non-profit organizations and public transportation authorities.

**Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:** 13.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** 156.

**Frequency:** Annually.

**Kusum Dhyani,**

*Director, Office of Management Planning.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20515 Filed 10–6–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–57–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2026–2212]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Notice and Request for Comment; Consumer Complaint Information

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments on approval of the reinstatement of a previously approved information collection.

**SUMMARY:** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) invites public comment on our intent to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to reinstate a previously approved information collection. Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from OMB. Under procedures established by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before seeking OMB approval, Federal agencies must solicit public comment on proposed collections of information, including extensions and reinstatement of previously approved information

collections. This document describes a collection of information for which NHTSA intends to seek OMB approval on information gathered through consumer complaints.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by December 7, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by Docket No. NHTSA-2022-0016 through one of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submissions:** Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- **Fax:** (202) 493-2251.

- **Mail or Hand Delivery:** Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366-9322 before coming.

**Instructions:** All submissions must include the agency name and docket number for this notice. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

**Privacy Act:** Anyone can search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78) or you may visit <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or the street address listed above. Follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets via the internet.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or access to background documents, contact Randy Reid, Office of Defects Investigation (NEF-100), 202-366-4383, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, W48-311, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, email: [randy.reid@dot.gov](mailto:randy.reid@dot.gov). Please identify the relevant information collection by referring to its OMB Control Number (2127-0008).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44

U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) (PRA), before an agency submits a proposed collection of information to OMB for approval, it must first publish a document in the **Federal Register** providing a 60-day comment period and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information. The OMB has promulgated regulations describing what must be included in such a document. Under OMB's regulation (at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)), an agency must ask for public comment on the following: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) how to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses. In compliance with these requirements, NHTSA asks for public comments on the following proposed collection of information for which the agency is seeking approval from OMB.

**Title:** Consumer Complaint Information.

**OMB Control Number:** 2127-0008.

**Type of Request:** Approval for reinstatement of a previously approved information collection.

**Type of Review Requested:** Regular.

**Requested Expiration Date of Approval:** 3 years from the approval date.

**Summary of the Collection of Information:** Chapter 301 of Title 49 of the United States Code authorizes the Secretary of Transportation (NHTSA by delegation) to require manufacturers of motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment to conduct owner notification and remedy, i.e., a recall campaign, when it has been determined that a safety defect exists in the performance, construction, components, or materials in motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment. Pursuant to Title 49 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 573 and 577, manufacturers are required to notify NHTSA, as well as motor vehicle and motor vehicle equipment owners, dealers, and distributors, that a determination has been made to remedy a defect through the issuance of a safety

recall. Manufacturers often initiate safety recalls voluntarily, while other recalls are influenced by NHTSA investigations or ordered by NHTSA via a court ruling. A manufacturer of each such motor vehicle or item of replacement equipment presented for remedy pursuant to such notification is required to remedy the safety defect at no charge to the owner. The manufacturer shall cause the vehicle to be remedied by any of the following means: (1) by repairing such vehicle or equipment; (2) by replacing such motor vehicle or equipment with an identical or similar product; or (3) by refunding the purchase price less depreciation.

In order to help NHTSA identify safety-related defects, the agency solicits information from vehicle owners. This information is used to identify and evaluate potential safety-related defects and to provide the necessary evidence of their existence. NHTSA also uses information to monitor the adequacy of a manufacturer's recall efforts.

Consumers of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment voluntarily submit complaints through NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Hotline, NHTSA's website ([www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)), or through correspondence.

#### *Description of the Need for the Information and Proposed Use of the Information*

NHTSA uses consumer input to help identify potential safety-related defects that could lead to a safety recall or recall inadequacies. The complaints disclose consumers' allegations of a safety defect that they experienced with their vehicle or vehicle equipment, including defects that resulted in injuries, crashes, property damage, or death. All complaints are converted to a Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQ) format and reviewed by NHTSA investigation/engineer staff. An NHTSA investigator may respond to a consumer who submits a complaint if more information is required. NHTSA staff review complaints/VOQs and determine whether further agency action is warranted. The agency has used this information to develop technical evidence to prove to manufacturers and courts that safety-related defects exist and require remedy. The information collection provides valuable insights that help NHTSA identify unreasonable safety risks in specific make, models, and model years of vehicles and equipment and determine when to open an investigation or initiate a recall. In this way, information collection helps reduce crashes, fires, injuries, and fatalities on our Nation's highways.

*Affected Public:* Consumers of motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 63,998.

There are an average of 67,366 complaints submitted per year (average of 184 complaints submitted each day). Some individuals submit multiple complaints to NHTSA. To estimate the total number of unique respondents per year, NHTSA estimates that the number of unique respondents is 95 percent of the number of unique complaints. Therefore, NHTSA estimates that there will be approximately 63,998 respondents each year ( $67,366 \times .95$ ).

*Frequency:* On occasion.

The submission of complaints is triggered by the occurrence of a problem with a consumer's vehicle.

*Number of Responses:* 67,366.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 11,227 hours.

Respondents have averaged 67,366 consumer complaints per year to NHTSA between January 2022 and December 2025. NHTSA anticipates that a respondent can complete a VOQ in approximately 10 minutes. The consumer is asked to provide his/her name, complete mailing address, product information, failed component information, and incident information, copies of supporting documentation,

and his/her signature. NHTSA estimates the total annual burden on respondents to be 11,227 hours (67,366 respondents  $\times$  10 minutes per VOQ = 11,227 annual hourly burden). To calculate the opportunity cost to respondents associated with the collection, NHTSA used the national average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls, which the Bureau of Labor Statistics lists at \$36.12.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the opportunity cost for the annual burden hours associated with respondents submitting complaints is estimated to be \$405,519 (11,227 hours  $\times$  \$36.12 per hour = \$405,519 annual opportunity cost burden).

TABLE 1—ANNUAL HOUR BURDEN ESTIMATES

| Annual number of respondents/responses | Estimated time per response (minutes) | Average hourly opportunity cost | Opportunity cost per submission | Total annual burden hours | Total annual opportunity costs |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 67,366                                 | 10                                    | \$36.12                         | \$6.02                          | 11,227                    | \$405,519                      |

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Cost:* \$0.

Participation in this collection is voluntary, and there are no costs to respondents beyond the time spent submitting a complaint.

*Public Comments Invited:* You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

*Authority:* The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.49; and DOT Order 1351.29.

**Eileen Sullivan,**

*Associate Administrator for Enforcement.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20495 Filed 10–6–26; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2026–1816]

#### Receipt of Petitions for Renewal of Temporary Exemptions From Shoulder Belt Requirement for Side-Facing Seats on Motorcoaches

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of petitions for renewal of temporary exemptions; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** NHTSA has received identical petitions from 13 final-stage manufacturers of “entertainer-type motorcoaches,” seeking renewal of temporary exemptions from a shoulder belt requirement of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 208, “Occupant crash protection,” for side-facing seats on motorcoaches. The petitioners seek to renew their exemptions that allow them to install Type 1 seat belts (lap belt only) at side-facing seating positions, instead of Type 2 seat belts (lap and shoulder belts) required by FMVSS No. 208. Each petitioner states that, absent the requested exemption, it will otherwise be unable to sell a vehicle whose overall level of safety or impact protection is at least equal to that of a nonexempted vehicle. NHTSA is publishing this document to notify the public of the

receipt of the petitions and to request comment on them, in accordance with statutory and administrative provisions.

**DATES:** If you would like to comment, you should submit your comment not later than November 6, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** *For technical issues:* Ms. Carla Rush, Office of Crashworthiness Standards, Telephone: (202) 366–1810; Email: [carla.rush@dot.gov](mailto:carla.rush@dot.gov).

*For legal issues:* Ms. Callie Roach, Office of Chief Counsel, Email: [callie.roach@dot.gov](mailto:callie.roach@dot.gov). The address of these officials is: the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit your comment, identified by the docket number in the heading of this document, by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic submissions:* Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.

- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Docket Management, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Suite W58–213, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366–9826 or (202) 366–9317 before coming.

<sup>1</sup> See Table B–3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm

payrolls, April 2025 available at <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t19.htm> (accessed May 21, 2026).

[www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t19.htm](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t19.htm) (accessed May 21, 2026).