

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
Washington, D.C., July 28, 1967.

Hon. WARREN G. MAGNUSON,
U.S. Senate,
Hon. JOHN E. MOSS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Thank you for your most recent letter concerning the proposed automobile insurance study which you have requested the Department of Transportation to undertake.

While I did highlight the need for additional financial resources in my letter of July 19, I nevertheless am still persuaded that there are other equally important requirements that should be met before we could effectively and responsibly undertake a study of the magnitude contemplated. As pointed out in my letter, I believe that the passage of legislation, giving to the Department a Congressional mandate and the requisite legal authority to insure the production of all relevant information, is essential to the success of this proposed study. Without such authority I would be reluctant to commit the Department to such a serious and complex undertaking.

I note also the recent action by the House Judiciary Committee undertaking a study of similar scope. There is some question whether the resources of the Government are best utilized with two separate studies on the same subject—one by the Executive Branch and one by the Legislative Branch.

However, as I hope I clearly stated before—the Department stands prepared to undertake the study you have suggested if the tools which we believe essential to the job in the responsible way which I am confident you would want are provided by the Congress. We are ready to give whatever assistance is necessary in drafting the appropriate legislative measure.

Sincerely,

ALAN S. BOYD, *Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
Washington, D.C., August 17, 1967.

Hon. WARREN G. MAGNUSON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MAGNUSON: It was good to talk to you the other day and to reach a conclusion on the automobile insurance study which you have asked us to undertake.

Our past correspondence and our discussions clearly outline several major questions which must be answered prior to the time that such a study can be started. They are (1) what are the limits of such a study? (2) are there data, of public record, which will provide answers to the many questions that must be answered within these limits? (3) what are the sources of data which are not part of the public record? (4) what additional authority will be needed by the Department to insure that such data can be obtained? (5) what are the time limits of such a study? (6) what staffing and funds are necessary for the Department to complete such a study?

As a result of our most recent discussion, I stated that I would put our available staff resources to work on answering the above six questions and attempt to provide you with a definitive answer by the opening of the next session of the Congress. We agreed to make a decision then as to what further steps should be taken.

Given our limited resources, at this crucial stage of the Department's development, I am hopeful that we will be able to obtain some additional appropriations so that this study outline can be prepared in a satisfactory and comprehensive manner. I would be happy to return to the Senate Appropriations Committee to explain our need for additional funding to staff this effort.

Sincerely,

ALAN S. BOYD, *Secretary.*