

February 2, 2013

President Obama and Mrs. Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Please instruct OMB to enact rear visibility standard provision of the Cameron Gulbransen Kids Transportation Safety Act 2008. Toddlers are being killed almost every day while OMB stalls.

Dear Mr. President and First Lady,

I would like to share my appreciation with you both for all of the time, effort and patience you give the citizens of this country. You have worked tirelessly and succeeded at passing legislation designed to improve the health and wellness for all of the children in America. As parents of two beautiful daughters, you know the issues families face every day trying to keep children safe and healthy.

My wife, two children and I would like to ask you both for assistance with some legislation that was initially introduced by Senator Hillary Clinton and Rep. Peter King and later passed into law on February 28, 2008. The law is named after my son, Cameron Gulbransen, whom I accidentally backed over and killed when he was two years old. Cameron had never opened the front door before but decided to do so in an attempt to follow me outside as I parked my SUV in my driveway on the night of October 19, 2002. Yes, in an attempt to move my wife's SUV into the driveway and out of the street, I backed over Cameron's head without even knowing he was under the vehicle. President and Mrs. Obama, I promise with my heart that I honestly looked over my shoulder and used all three mirrors as I proceeded to park the car. No, I never saw my son and in fact only noticed him after I felt the vehicle roll over his head.

As a father and a prominent pediatrician here in New York, I really thought that my life had just about stopped, as the devastation was unbearable. Like so many soldiers returning from combat, I had Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and I had to work hard at pushing through to succeed as a family man and physician caring for thousands of children. As devastating as this story may sound, I consider myself lucky for having been able to work with Janette Fennell from Kids and Cars, along with several members of Congress in order to introduce and pass into law the Cameron Gulbransen Kids Transportation Safety Act 2008. Very few parents whose children die under such tragic circumstances have the opportunity to channel their grief into policy change. Yes, I consider myself lucky.

I know you both love your daughters so very much and I know when you read about my situation you likely will shed a tear, so I thought this would be a good time to ask you for some assistance instructing OMB to enact rear visibility standard provision of the Cameron Gulbransen Safety Act 2008. Unfortunately OMB is stalling while backover accidents are claiming approximately 2 toddlers every week. Certainly the industry is pushing back against this safety act, but the industry knows that backup cameras and safety devices work. You can both imagine my plight, and all of those that have worked tirelessly on this safety act, but now my family and I really need your help.

You both continue to keep issues that effect families and children as a high priority so I thought this would be such a wonderful opportunity to have our families work together and make the final push to enact this law. Please spend a few minutes reviewing this law and do whatever you can to help prevent hundreds of children from dying and thousands more from being backed over annually due to poor visibility standards.

My family and I would love nothing more than to be able to come visit you and your family at the White House and thank you for helping us with our cause.

Sincerely,

Dr. Greg Gulbransen
Pediatrician