



## Rules for rear cameras in vehicles delayed again

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WASHINGTON -- Rules aimed at helping drivers avoid unintentionally backing over children, already overdue, are being delayed again following automaker complaints that requiring rearview video cameras systems on new cars and trucks would be too expensive.

In a letter to lawmakers, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said his department needs more time for "research and data analysis."

"I believe it is important to allot additional time to ensure that the final rule is appropriate and the underlying analysis is robust," LaHood wrote Tuesday.

The letter didn't mention concerns of the auto industry, which has pushed for expanded mirrors instead of mandated cameras.

The new rear visibility standard was required by a law that Congress passed in 2008.

"This is devastating news," Janette Fennell, founder and president of the Leawood-based KidsAndCars.org, said in a statement Wednesday evening. "This additional long delay is totally unacceptable ... What more do we need to learn?"

She said her organization has documented the backover deaths of 11 children in the first seven weeks of this year.

The Star's staff contributed to this report.

<http://www.kansascity.com/2012/02/29/3460728/rules-for-rear-cameras-in-vehicles.html#storylink=cpy>