

Fight for rearview cameras in cars continues

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Brandy Dahlen lost her two-year-old daughter in a backover accident in 2011. Source: WBRC video

SHELBY COUNTY, AL (WBRC) - April 11, 2011 is a day Brandy Dahlen constantly relieves over and over again. That day her [2-year-old daughter Abigail was killed](#) while playing outside with her siblings.

"She chased the ball into our neighbor's driveway and he proceeded to back up and backed over her. He could not see her. There is no way he could see her," Dahlen said.

"She died almost instantly, and I wasn't home. I missed those last moments with her."

Abigail is just one of the hundreds that die every year in what's known as "backover accidents."

"Before my daughter was killed I had no idea how dangerous cars were to back up, and I had no idea you could fit 60 to 100 children behind a car and have no idea at all they're there," Dahlen said.



In 2008 Congress passed a law requiring that rearview vision be improved. However so far, no mandatory requirements have been put in place.

This week the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced that they would only recommend that all new vehicles be equipped with a rearview camera.

"As we've seen with other features in the past, adding rearview video systems to our list of recommended safety features will encourage both automakers and consumers to

consider more vehicles that offer this important technology," U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said in a press release.

"While adding this technology to our list of safety features is important, I remain committed to implementing the rear visibility rule as well," Foxx continued.

Safety groups view this latest delay as another stall tactic. This week several activists groups filed suit against the transportation department asking that they be required to act within 90 days.

Dahlen prays that suit will be won.

"When she (Abigail) died, we lost more than just her. I lost my other children's childhood in so many ways," she said.

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<http://www.myfoxal.com/story/23548850/fight-for-rearview-cameras-in-cars-continues>