

## Advocacy Action Update

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Legislators want to do the right thing, but they also want to please voters. Letting them know the public supports efforts to protect children can be a powerful incentive to vote in favor of these issues. There are currently two pending bills in the Ohio House and one in the Senate that address child safety issues. We encourage all members of Safe Kids Greater Cleveland to learn more about these bills and work with our legislators to advance the health and safety of children and families.

### **H.B. 387, the Ohio Child Bicycle Safety Act**

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This bill would require all bicyclists or bicycle passengers under the age of 18 to wear a bicycle helmet. On Wednesday, January 9, Representative Michael J. Skindell (Lakewood) presented sponsor testimony on this legislation in the House Infrastructure, Homeland Security and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

At this time, the best way to help move this legislation forward would be to contact Chairman Reinhard and Ranking Member Sayre in support of further hearings:

#### **Representative Stephen Reinhard**

82nd House District  
77 South High St. 12th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
(614) 644-6265  
District82@ohr.state.oh.us

#### **Representative Allan Sayer**

96th House District  
77 South High St. 10th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
(614) 466-8035  
District96@ohr.state.oh.us

### **H.B. 320 and S.B. 27, Booster Seat Bills**

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Booster seat legislation was introduced last year in both the House and Senate. The booster seat bills (HB 320 and SB 27) address the very serious problem of preventable deaths and injuries to 4 to 8-year-olds in Ohio and would close a major loophole in Ohio's child passenger safety laws.

The Boost Ohio Kids Coalition is calling for child passenger safety advocates to attend a Legislative Reception at the Columbus Athletic Club on January 29, 2007 between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to talk to members of the General Assembly who may attend the reception. Invitations will arrive to all members of the General Assembly early next week.

Please RSVP by calling 216-606-6702 or sending an e-mail to [theohiomotorist@aaaoma.com](mailto:theohiomotorist@aaaoma.com)  
Go to [www.boostohiokids.org](http://www.boostohiokids.org) to find additional information about the coalition.

