<Letter to the Editor

Newspaper Name  
Address  
Date>

Dear Editor,

As a Vision Zero partner, <business/organization name> strongly believes in the importance of seat belt use and is a supporter of the seat belt law moving from a secondary to primary law this summer.

The upcoming change to North Dakota’s seat belt law is a positive change in legislation. Beginning August 1, 2023, the seat belt law becomes a primary enforcement, meaning no other violation is required for a driver to be pulled over by law enforcement and issued a seat belt citation. The law will also require all occupants to wear a seat belt, regardless of where they are sitting in the vehicle.

Seat belts save lives. The number one contributing factor in motor vehicle crash deaths in North Dakota is not wearing a seat belt. Preliminary data from the North Dakota Department of Transportation Highway Safety Division for 2022 shows that 69% of crash fatalities were unbelted where seat belts were present in the vehicle. That’s a staggering statistic, and one we can lower if everyone buckles up, every seat, every trip, every time.

The goal of zero fatalities on North Dakota roadways is not only attainable, but also vital. When it comes to your life, or the lives of your family and friends, is any other number acceptable? We’re aiming for zero fatalities because every life matters.

The primary seat belt law gets us closer to our goal.

Thank you,

<Name  
Title, Business/Organization  
Email  
Phone Number>

<A letter to the editor should be 250 words or less.>