DRIVE ACTION FUND

Senators Daines, Rosen Cosponsor *She DRIVES Act*, Bipartisan Bill to Make Cars Safe for Women

[Washington, D.C.] – Amid escalating partisan gridlock, Senators Rosen and Daines took decisive action – joining a growing bipartisan coalition to support the *She DRIVES Act* (S. 161) to end the deadly gender bias in car safety testing.

In recent days, Senator **Steve Daines** (R-MT) and Cybersecurity Subcommittee Ranking Member Senator **Jacky Rosen** (D-NV) joined Senator **Deb Fischer** (R-NE), Appropriations Committee Vice Chair **Patty Murray** (D-WA), Consumer Protection, Technology, and Data Privacy Chair **Marsha Blackburn** (R-TN), Senator **Tammy Duckworth** (D-IL), Appropriations Committee Chair Senator **Susan Collins** (R-ME)**,** Environment and Public Works Committee Chair **Shelley Moore Capito** (R-W.Va), Senator **Katie Britt** (R-AL), Indian Affairs Committee Vice Chair **Brian Schatz** (D-HI), Senator **John Hickenlooper** (D-CO), Senator **Peter Welch** (D-VT), to cosponsor the *She DRIVES Act.*

"Promoting safety on the road is common sense. There's no reason why we should be using outdated, inaccurate models for crash tests, especially when it means women are more likely to be injured in car accidents," said **Senator Steve Daines.** "I'm proud to join this bipartisan legislation that will ensure we're using accurate models for crash testing, which will help save the lives of drivers in Montana and across the nation."

"No one should lose their live because the system designed to protect them was built for someone else. We've made cars smarter, faster, and more efficient. We have the data, we have the technology. Now we need the action," said Drive Action Fund President and Founder **Maria Weston Kuhn.**

Currently, cars are not designed to protect female drivers and passengers. Because the New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) do not test cars with accurate female crash test dummies, **women are 17% more likely to be killed** and **73% more likely to be severely injured than men** in the same crash.

This disparity has fatal consequences in each Senator's home state; data on the impact in Montana and Nevada are below.

Table 1: Female Driver, Fatalities, and Economic Crash Data by State

State	Number of Licensed Female Drivers	Total Number of Traffic Female Fatalities, 2013 to 2023	Average Yearly Cost from Female Traffic Deaths, 2013 to 2023
Montana	430,986	721	$122,504,454
Nevada	1,103,722	1,023	$173,817,000

Sources: FFARS Encyclopedia, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx.; "Guide to Calculating Costs of Motor-Vehicle Crashes." Injury Facts, National Safety Council, 25 Apr. 2024, injuryfacts.nsc.org/all-injuries/costs/guide-to-calculating-costs/data-details/.; United States, Congress, Federal Highway Administration. Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, Jan. 2025. https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/2023/pdf/dl1c.pdf.

Under the provisions of the *She DRIVES Act*, the Department of Transportation will be required to do the following:
- Incorporate the most advanced female crash testing technology into the New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS);
- Institute new frontal and side crash tests with the accurate female dummy tested equally as the male dummy, including in the driver's seat;
- Establish new injury criteria, including head, neck, abdomen, chest, pelvis, upper leg, and lower leg; and
- Require that simulated digital tests are validated by matching physical tests.

The *She DRIVES Act* represents a **significant bipartisan effor**t to modernize automotive safety standards and prioritize the safety of all drivers. Drive Action Fund thanks **Senators Daines, Rosen, Fischer, Murray, Blackburn, Duckworth, Collins, Capito, Britt, Welch, and Hickenlooper**, and urges their colleagues to support this vital legislation and ensure its swift passage for the benefit of women and girls nationwide.