

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
POLICY

Subject: Mandatory Seat Belt Use

Document Number: PS-109-0

Attachment(s): Attachment A: AMA Policy, Mandatory Seat Belt Utilization Laws

Effective Date: June 4, 2010

Revision Date(s): May 29, 2026

POLICY STATEMENT

The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) affirms the American Medical Association (AMA) position of support for mandatory seat belt utilization laws.

AUTHORITY

South Dakota State Medical Association Council of Physicians, 6/4/2010, 5/29/2026; Reaffirmed by South Dakota State Medical Association Board of Directors 11/5/2020, 5/29/2026.

American Medical Association (Sub. Res. 133, A-85; Reaffirmed by CLRPD Rep. 2, I-95; Reaffirmed: CSA Rep. 8, A-05).

Attachment A:

H-15.982 Mandatory Seat Belt Utilization Laws

The AMA (1) supports mandatory seat belt utilization laws which do not simultaneously relieve automobile manufactures of their responsibility to install passive restraints; (2) favors informing state medical societies about the status of mandatory seat belt utilization laws which simultaneously relieve automobile manufactures of their responsibility to install passive restraints; and (3) urges reconsideration of the administrative regulation of the U.S. Department of Transportation that would release automobile manufactures from the responsibility of providing passive restraints when mandatory seat belt utilization for two-thirds of the U.S. population is attained, and (4) supports the amendment of state seat belt laws which contain exemptions for emergency medical services personnel, such that these laws would provide exemptions only when personnel are actively involved in patient care. (Sub. Res. 133, A-85; Reaffirmed by CLRPD Rep. 2, I-95; Reaffirmed: CSA Rep. 8, A-05).