

United States Senate

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May 7, 2012

Mark P. Frissora, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Hertz Global Holdings, Inc.
225 Brae Blvd.
Park Ridge, NJ 07656-0713

Dear Mr. Frissora:


I am writing to thank Hertz for your efforts to improve rental car safety, and ask that you partner with me to continue advancing this important cause. As you know, I have joined Senator Schumer in introducing S. 1445, the Raechel and Jacqueline Houck Safe Rental Car Act, which would prohibit rental car companies from renting out or selling a vehicle under safety recall until it has been repaired. Our bill is named after Raechel and Jacqueline Houck, two sisters from Santa Cruz, ages 24 and 20, who were killed when a recalled car they had rented from Enterprise caught fire and crashed into a truck.

Hertz has written to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that you place all vehicles under safety recall on hold until the repair is completed. Furthermore, Hertz has worked with the Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety (CARS) to develop a compromise legislative proposal based on S. 1445 that would establish this policy in statute. I applaud you and CARS for your efforts, and intend to introduce new legislation soon based on your compromise proposal.

In the meantime, I am writing to all of the major rental car companies and urging them to voluntarily adopt this policy by making the following pledge: **“Effective immediately, our company is making a permanent commitment to not rent out or sell any vehicles under safety recall until the defect has been remedied.”** I believe this pledge is consistent with Hertz’ current recall policies, and I request that you make this commitment, in writing, to me and NHTSA within the next 30 days. I intend to announce at that time which companies have agreed to make this pledge, and which companies have instead chosen to continue putting their customers’ lives at risk.

I have met with Cally Houck, the mother of Raechel and Jacqueline, and have seen her grief and outrage over the loss of her beautiful, talented daughters. As a mother and grandmother myself, I cannot in good conscience stand by while rental car companies continue to rent out unsafe recalled cars to their customers. I sincerely appreciate your efforts to negotiate in good faith with CARS, and look forward to working with you to improve rental car safety.

Sincerely,



BARBARA BOXER
United States Senator