

July 23, 2017

To the members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee,

I am writing to share my family's story and strong support for the PARK IT Act. (H.R. 3145) The bill requires an automatic shut-off feature in all new motor vehicles to prevent the car from being inadvertently left running. An automatic shut-off feature is a cost effective, commonsense solution to an issue that is not going away without action.

On August 3, 2017 my father, Fred Schaub, was found dead from carbon monoxide poisoning inside his home. His death was caused by his keyless ignition vehicle that was unknowingly left running in the garage of his home. Myself and my 5 siblings lost our father that day because his vehicle did not have an automatic shut-off feature. Nothing is more devastating than knowing that a simple feature like this would have saved his life.

People, like my father, who have been driving a vehicle with a traditional keyed ignition their whole life are accustomed to knowing that their vehicle is off when they walk away with their keys or fob in-hand. This makes it very easy to unconsciously leave a keyless ignition vehicle running.

Individuals who have hearing deficits are at a much greater risk because they cannot hear if the vehicle is on or not. Even those with average hearing abilities may not be able to hear newer hybrid vehicles that run very quietly.

KidsAndCars.org has documented 39 fatalities and 84 injuries caused by carbon monoxide poisoning from vehicles with keyless ignitions. Already this month, two people have lost their lives after a keyless ignition vehicle was left running in the garage of their home. The PARK IT Act needs to be passed immediately before more families suffer the unbearable reality that my family faces every day.

My father was a beautiful, extraordinary person. He had the biggest heart and we miss him more and more every day.

In honor of my father and on behalf of my family, I strong urge you to pass the PARK IT Act. People's lives depend on it.

Thank you for your consideration on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

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