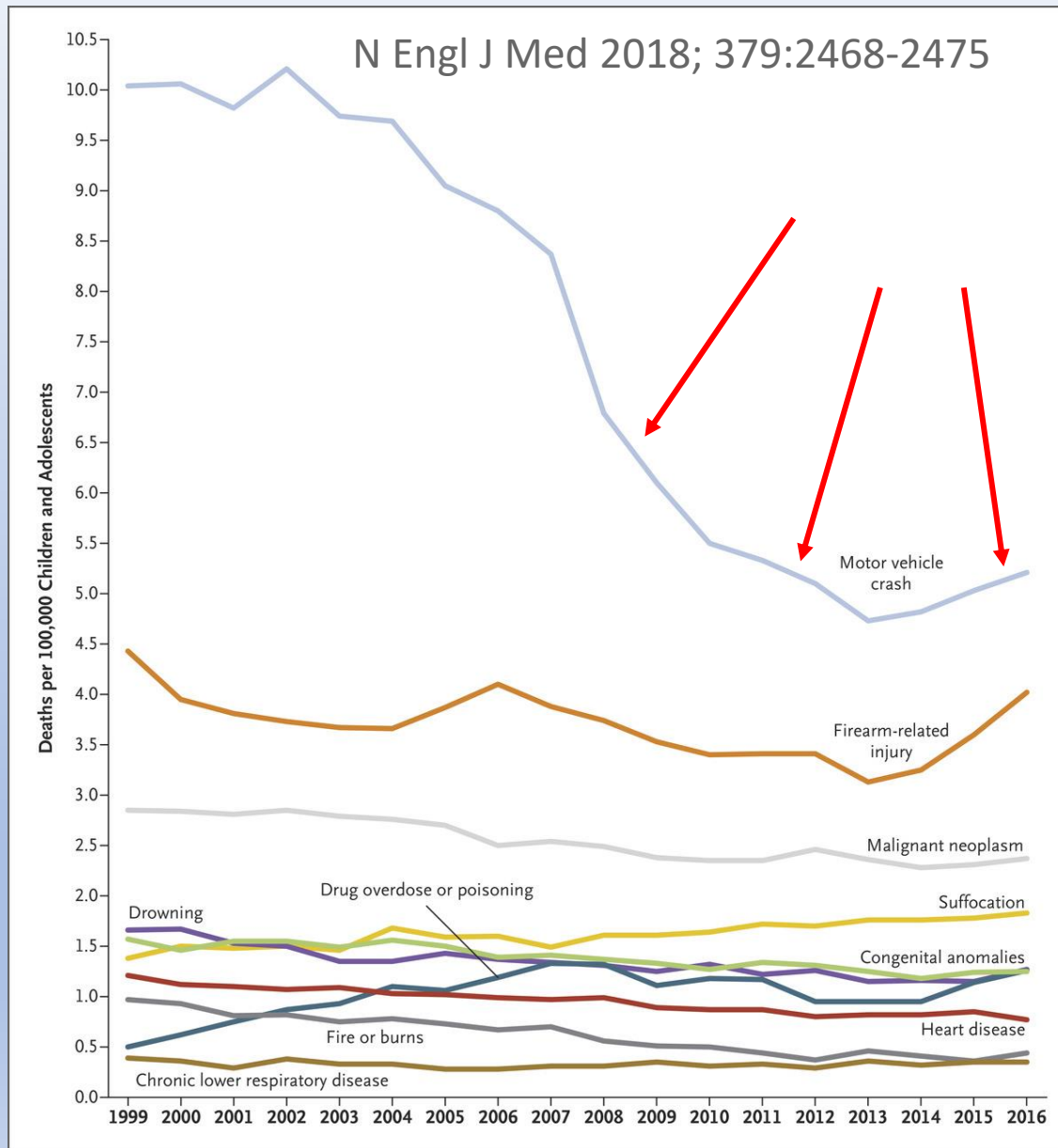


Child Passenger Safety



IS YOUR CHILD IN THE RIGHT CAR SEAT?

Effectiveness of Child Restraint Systems

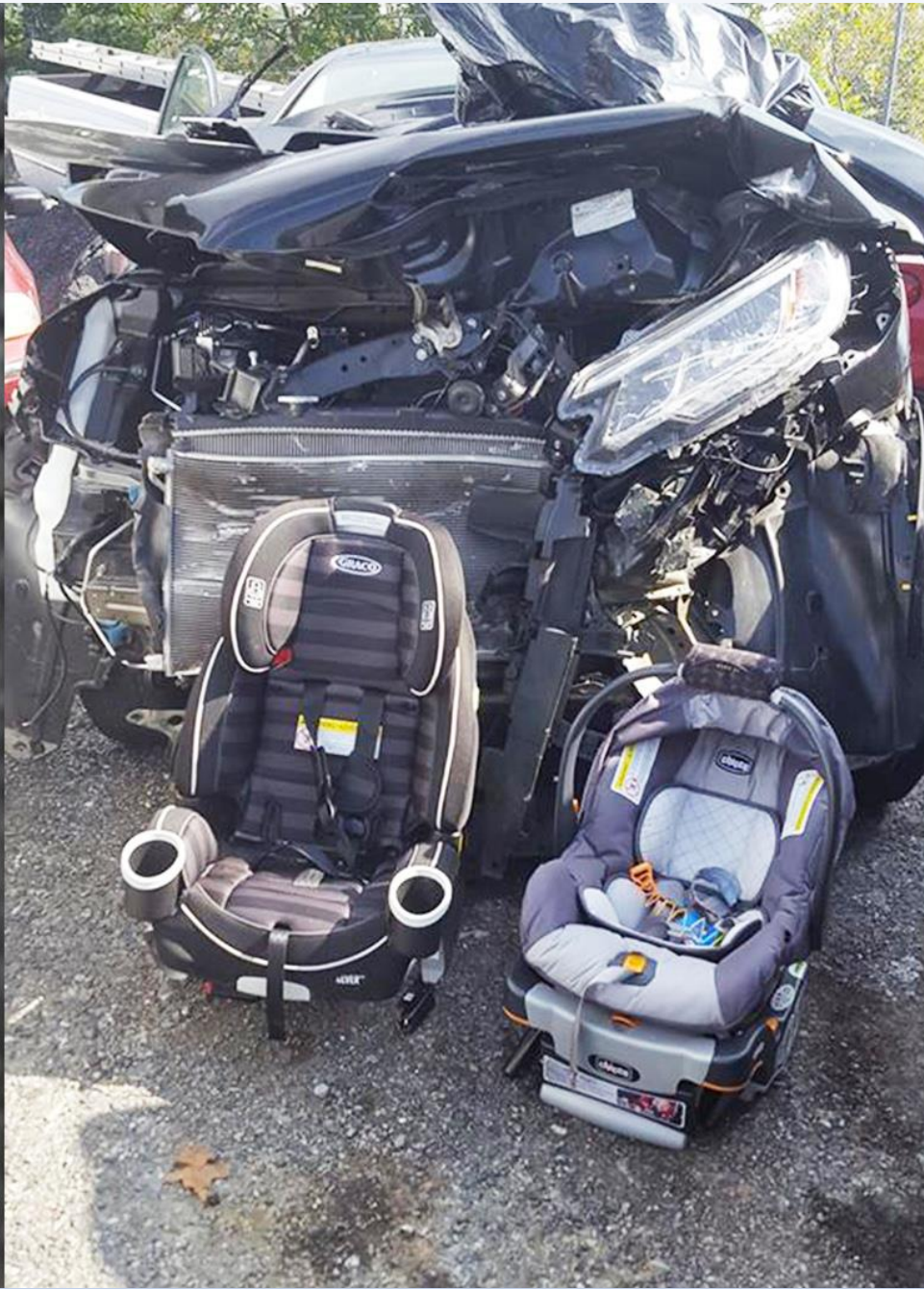


- Motor vehicle crashes are still the leading cause of death overall in children and adolescents
- Car seats reduce the risk of death in infants by 71% and in toddlers by 54%
- Booster seats reduce the risk of injury by 46% in children 4-8 years of age
- For every child who dies in a MVA, many more are injured and require emergency care

Source: AAP State Advocacy Focus: Child Passenger Safety

Cars are getting safer. Drivers are more distracted





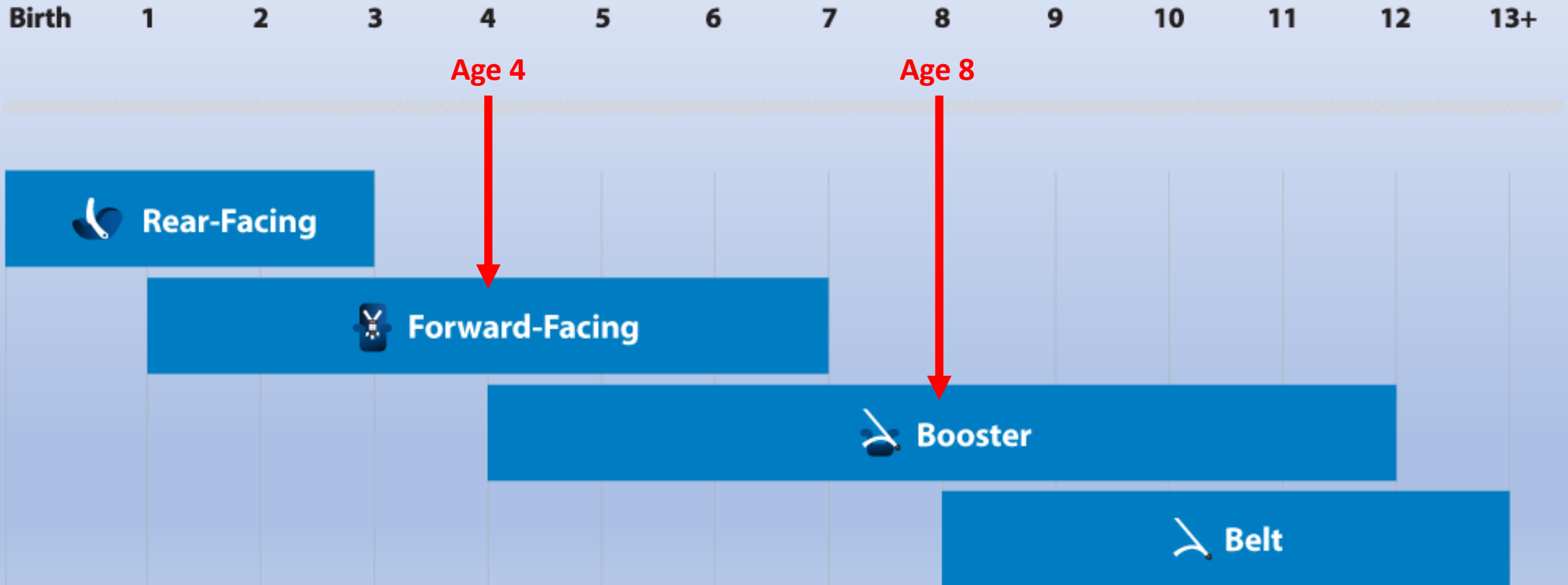
Child Car Seat Laws in Michigan

Current Michigan Statute	American Academy of Pediatrics Policy 2018 (HB 4983)
	Infants and toddlers should ride rear facing as long as possible, until they reach the highest height or weight limit. (or until age 2)
Young children should ride in car safety seats until at least age 4.	Young children should ride in car safety seats with a five-point harness as long as possible, until they reach the highest height or weight limit (and until age 5)
School-aged children should ride in booster seats until a height of 4' 9" inches or age 8.	School-aged children should ride in booster seats until the vehicle lap and shoulder belt fits properly (4' 9" tall or 8 years of age)
	Children should sit in rear seat until at least 13 years old

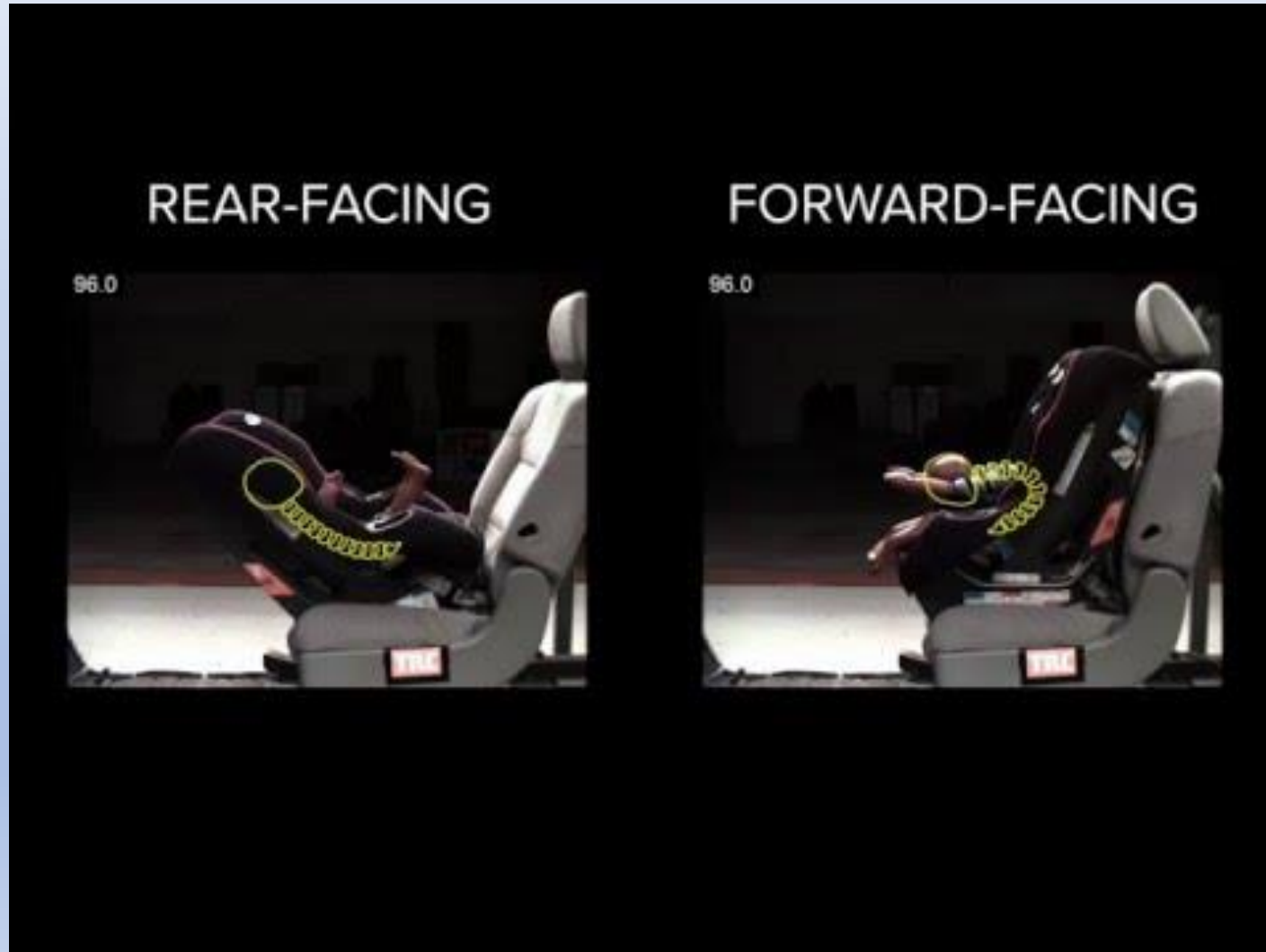
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Car Seat Recommendations

Current Michigan Statute

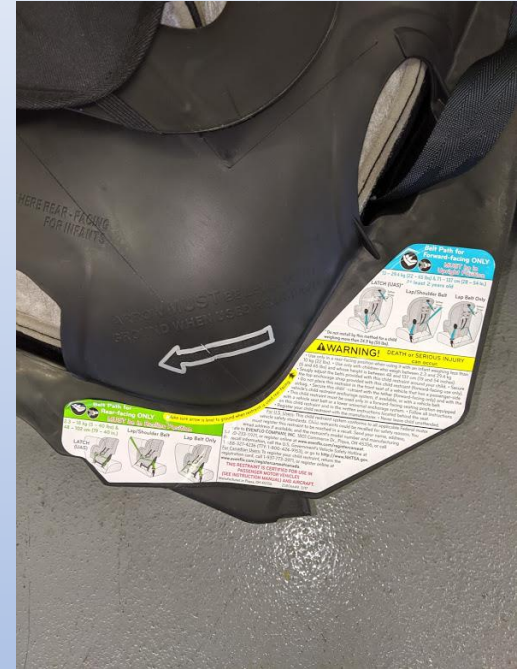


Rear facing versus forward facing car seats: crash-testing



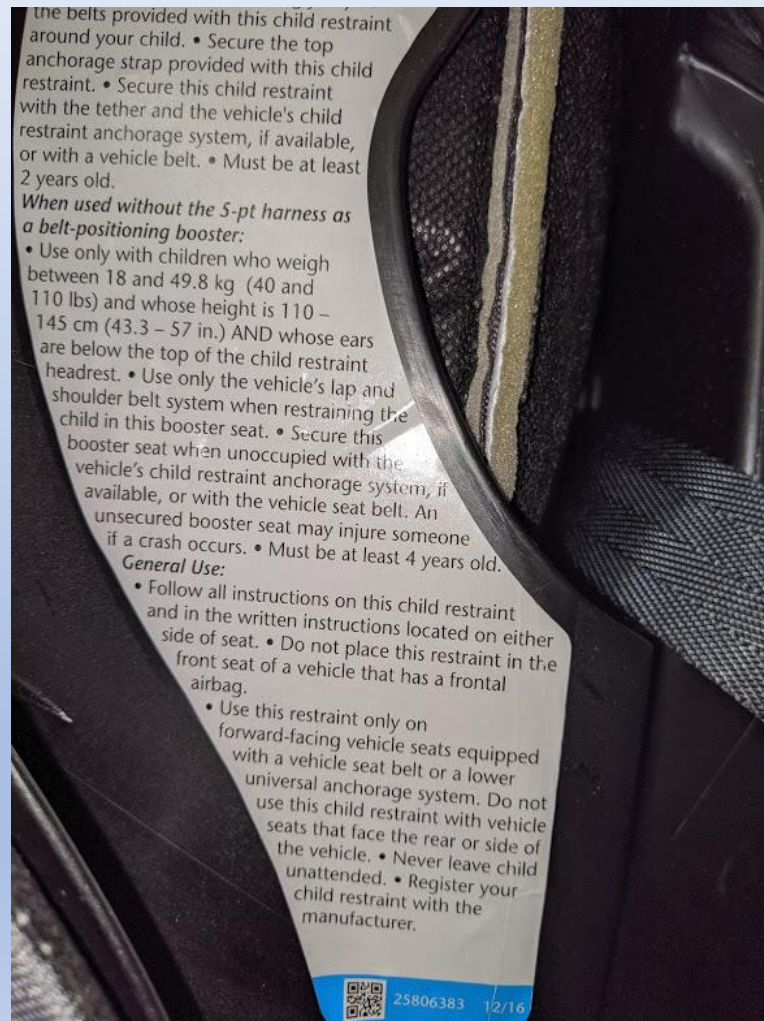
Rear-Facing Car Seats

Spreads the crash force more evenly and limits the motion of the head
Cradles and moves with the child to reduce stress on fragile necks and spinal cords



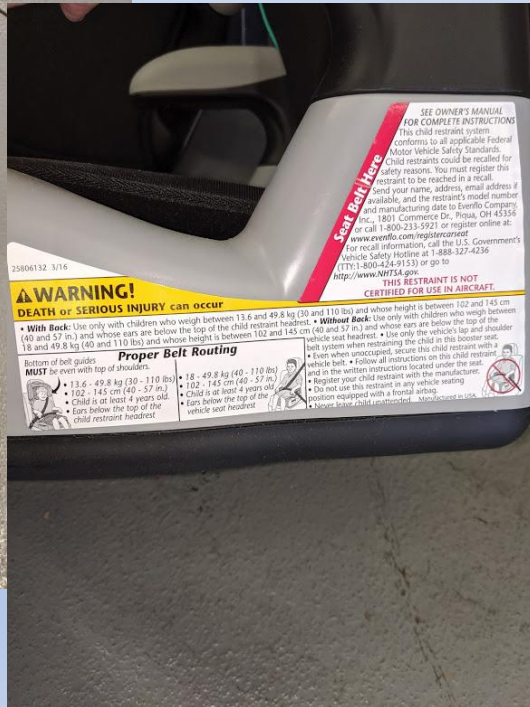
Forward-facing seats with 5-point harness system

Distributes crash forces and acts as a restraint to hold the child in place



Booster Seats

Allow positioning for proper fit of shoulder and lap belt





- AAP recommends that children sit in the back seat until age 13.

- **Michigan laws are outdated** based on motor vehicle accident research.
- **Children are safest** staying in the most protective seats for as long as they fit. Seats are clearly labeled.
- Pediatricians advise based on the **2011** and updated **2018 AAP Policy** statements. Having laws align with best practices is key.
- **Cost to families:** none. This is an opportunity to use the seat they have for a longer period of time.
- Updating the Michigan statute provides opportunity for **education** to families on the safest way to transport children.





Of the many questions you ask
yourself every day, “Is my child
AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE
in the car?” should be at the
top of your list.

[SAFERCAR.GOV/THERIGHTSEAT](https://www.safercar.gov/therightseat)

