# REQUIRING ANALOG AM RADIO IN NEW VEHICLES: WHAT IS CONGRESS TRYING TO SOLVE FOR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A government requirement to install analog AM radio in vehicles:</th>
<th>Options for news and entertainment while driving:</th>
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<td>• Not necessary for public safety.</td>
<td>• Digital AM and FM radio.</td>
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<td>• An intervention by Congress to support analog AM broadcasting.</td>
<td>• Internet-based radio (streaming).</td>
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<td>• Creates a troubling precedent for U.S.DOT.</td>
<td>• Satellite radio.</td>
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<td>• Apple Carplay and Android Auto.</td>
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**Solutions that stop short of a full-blown government analog AM radio mandate:**

- Automakers will continue to make alerts from FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) available across all platforms.  
  
  *IPAWS alerts will be delivered for free.*

- Automakers support a clear disclosure if a vehicle doesn’t include analog AM radio.

- Instead of a law, automakers will include an emergency, portable AM radio in new vehicles without analog AM – if requested.

## Why electric vehicles and AM broadcast don’t always mix:

- High-voltage electrical systems in EVs generate electromagnetic interference.

- Center for Automotive Research: the interference “…distorts AM radio signals, affecting the listening experience for drivers and passengers.”

- Techniques to reduce interference (it can’t be eliminated) add weight and would cost an estimated $3.8 billion by 2030.

**NHTSA should be a vehicle safety agency – and an agency with boundaries.**

- NHTSA is the country’s traffic safety watchdog and issues Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards after careful study of consumer acceptance and a rulemaking process.

  *Examples of lifesaving vehicle safety technologies: Air bags, anti-lock brakes, electronic stability control, seat belts.*

## What’s the rush?

- There are about 286 million vehicles on U.S. roads.

- Average age: 12+ years.

  **99 percent of vehicles have analog AM radio.**

- If every automaker discontinued analog AM radio today it would take more than 30 years for analog AM radio to fully phase out of all vehicles.

- Congress has time to ask GAO to study this and understand where analog AM radio fits into the government’s emergency alert protocols in the future.

## Innovation and competition from China:

- Electrification, automation and connectivity are the future – a recipe for a strong, growing and competitive U.S. automotive industry.

- Automakers are doing their part to compete with China and produce the most connected, most innovative and most efficient vehicles in history.

- Resources and time diverted to mitigate analog AM radio interference will only complicate future vehicle efficiency and safe technologies.