

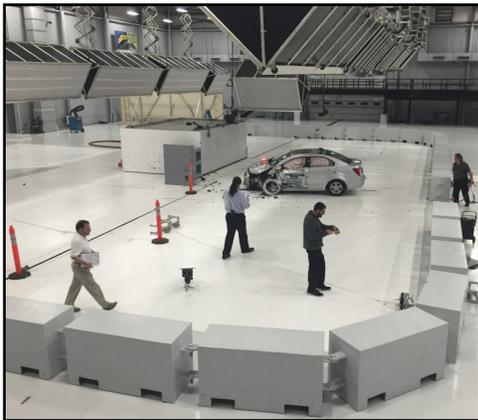
Director Farmer visits Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

While attending the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Southeastern Zone Meeting, Director Farmer and fellow state Directors of Insurance toured the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss Data Institute in Arlington, Virginia and met with staff today. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), an independent, non-profit scientific and educational organization, is dedicated to reducing the losses — deaths, injuries and property damage — from crashes on the nation's roads.

The Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) shares and supports this mission through scientific studies of insurance data representing the human and economic losses resulting from the ownership and operation of



different types of vehicles and by publishing insurance loss results by vehicle make and model. The Institute performs crash tests in their Vehicle Research Center that was developed in 1992.



These tests provide valuable data that is used in their widely consulted vehicle ratings. These rating tests help consumers determine the best vehicle that suits their needs. Vehicles are rated for safety based on performance in several tests, and the best performers carry the *TOP SAFETY PICK* designation. IIHS tests have encouraged automakers to produce safer vehicles, which is the ultimate goal. Knowing

that consumers consult the ratings before buying, manufacturers design cars and trucks with these tests in mind.

In 2013, IIHS included testing and rating vehicles for front crash prevention in their procedures. Technology that can warn of an impending frontal collision or initiate autonomous braking is part of a growing group of crash avoidance features that have the potential to take vehicle safety to new levels.

The Institute not only performs these critical tests it also conducts research and reviews safety standards for other important factors that can impact drivers to include seat belt usage, speed, impaired and distracted driving, and child safety precautions among others.

