

MAKE SOME NOISE

By Angela Greiling Keane

A proposal to force **electric cars** to make enough noise to warn pedestrians

Electric cars, which have soundless engines, would need to make noises to let pedestrians know they're near, under a new U.S.-proposed rule.

Sounds would need to be detectable when vehicles are traveling slower than 18 miles per hour so electric and hybrid-electric cars can be heard by bicyclists and pedestrians, particularly the visually impaired, under the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration rule.

The so-called quiet-car rule, which would have to be made final before it takes effect, would save 35 lives over each model year of hybrid vehicles and prevent 2,800 injuries, the agency said in an e-mailed statement.

