

CERTAIN 2017 MODEL YEAR EXPLORER, F-SUPER DUTY, AND F-150 VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH MANUAL SEAT BACKREST RECLINER — DRIVER SEAT BACKREST FRAME INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT

OVERVIEW

Some of the affected vehicles may fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 202: Head Restraints, and FMVSS 207: Seating Systems. The driver seat backrest frame may have been improperly welded, which could result in an inoperative or difficult to operate seat backrest recliner, seat squeaks, unexpected or sudden movement on one side, or a seat backrest that appears to be leaning rearward on one side. An improperly welded seat backrest frame may not adequately restrain an occupant in a crash, increasing the risk of injury. Before demonstrating or delivering any new in-stock vehicles involved in this recall, dealers are to replace the driver seat backrest frame for Explorer and F-Super Duty vehicles. For F-150 vehicles, dealers are to inspect, and if necessary, replace the driver seat backrest frame following the Technical Information.

SERVICE PROCEDURE

1. Based on vehicle line, select the appropriate option below.
 - For F-Super Duty vehicles, replace the driver seat backrest frame. Proceed to Page 8.
 - For Explorer vehicles, replace the driver seat backrest frame. Proceed to Page 13.
 - For F-150 vehicles, proceed to the driver seat backrest frame Inspection Procedure below.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE - F-150 VEHICLES ONLY

NOTE: This inspection procedure will determine the driver seat backrest frame weld cell identification marking, build date, and shift build to determine if replacement is required. The weld cell identification marking is located on the outboard side of the driver backrest frame. The build date and shift build information is located at the lower rear portion of the backrest frame.

1. If equipped with manual lumbar, adjust the lumbar to the fully relaxed position.
2. Remove the recline handle and lumbar knob (if equipped). See Figure 1.

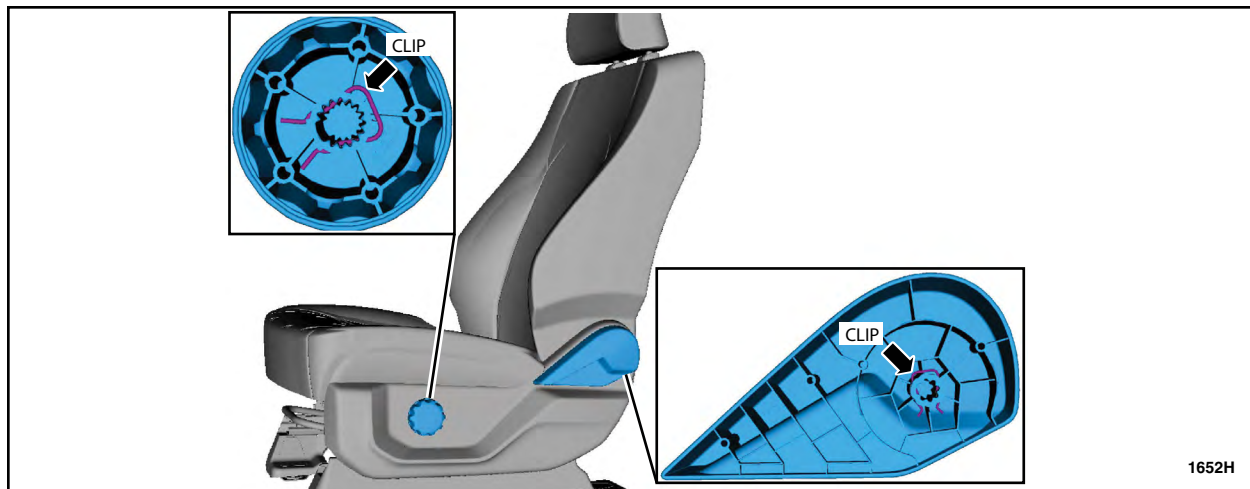


FIGURE 1



3. Remove the two side shield screws. See Figure 2.

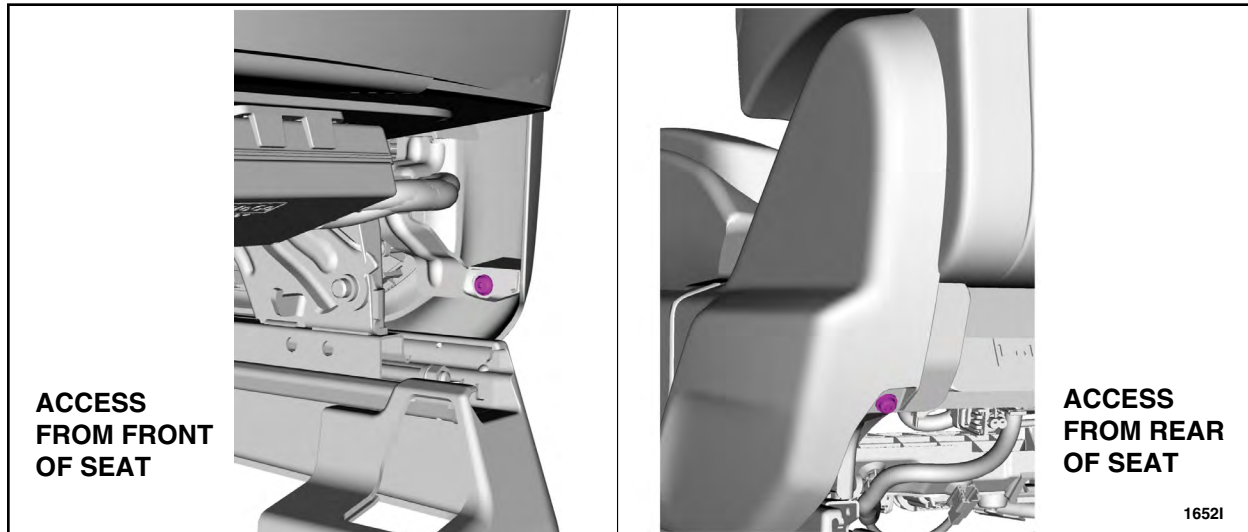


FIGURE 2

4. Position aside the side shield. See Figure 3.

1. Lift up on the rear of the side shield and pull outward.
2. Push the side shield forward.
3. If equipped, do not disconnect the electrical connector at this time in case seat movement is later needed for inspection or seat removal.

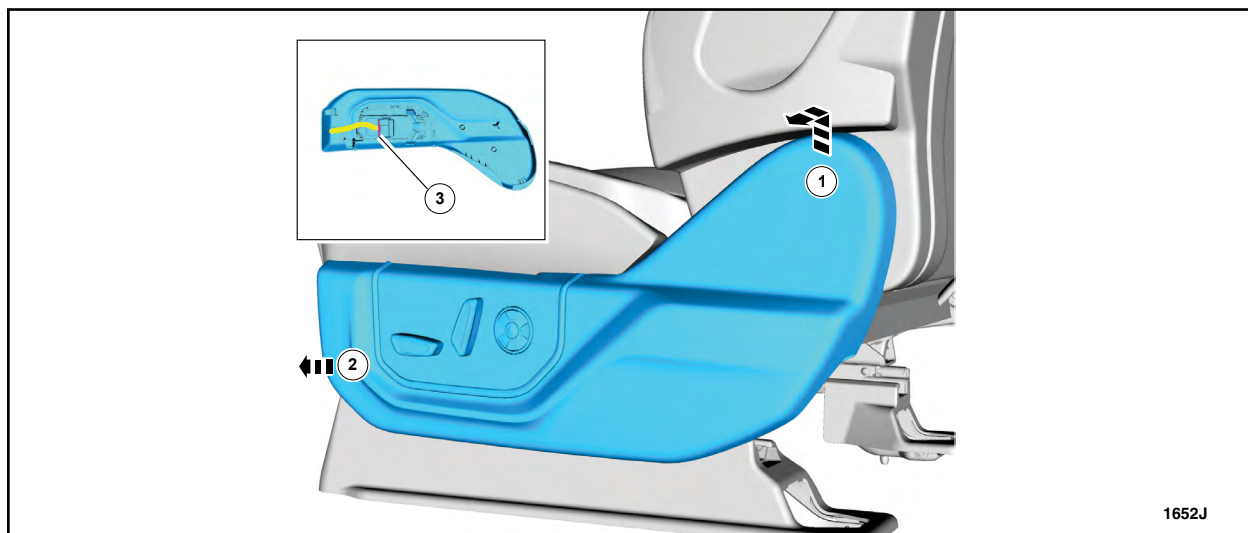


FIGURE 3



5. Inspect the outboard driver seat backrest frame weld cell identification marking. See Figure 4a and 4b.

- If the weld cell identification marking on the frame **matches** the identification marking shown in Figure 4b for weld cell 60, proceed to Step 6.
- If the weld cell identification marking on the frame **does not match** the identification marking shown in Figure 4b for weld cell 60, the driver seat backrest frame **PASSES** inspection and replacement is not required. Reverse removal steps to install the driver seat side shield.

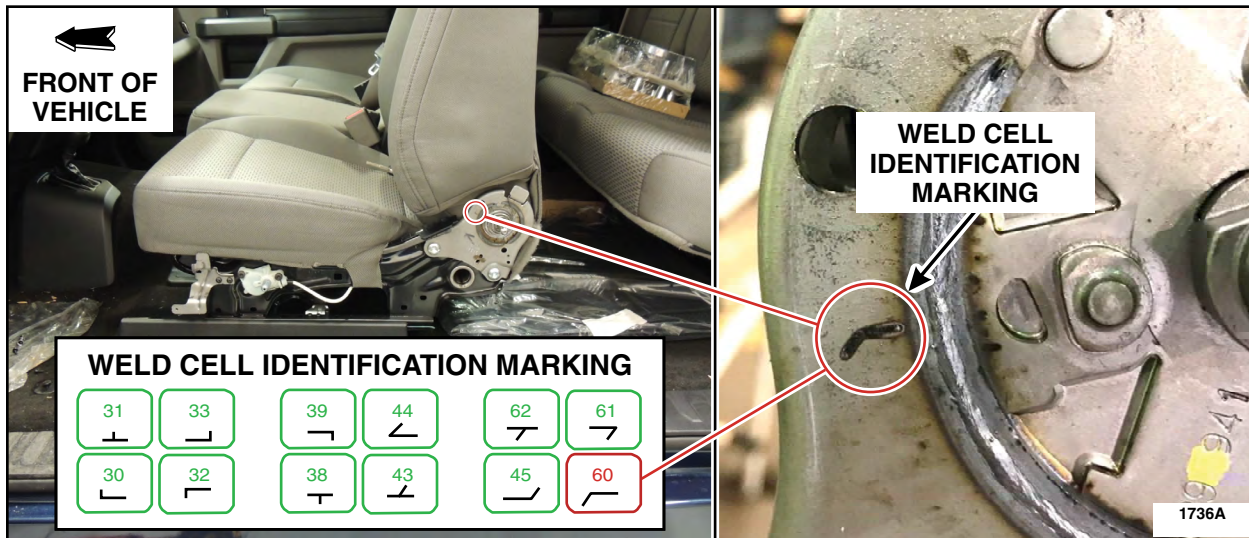


FIGURE 4a

FIGURE 4b

6. From behind the driver seat, release both electrical connector retainers from under the seat and position the wire harnesses aside. See Figure 5.



FIGURE 5



7. Detach the two backrest cover straps and position the backrest cover upward. See Figure 6.

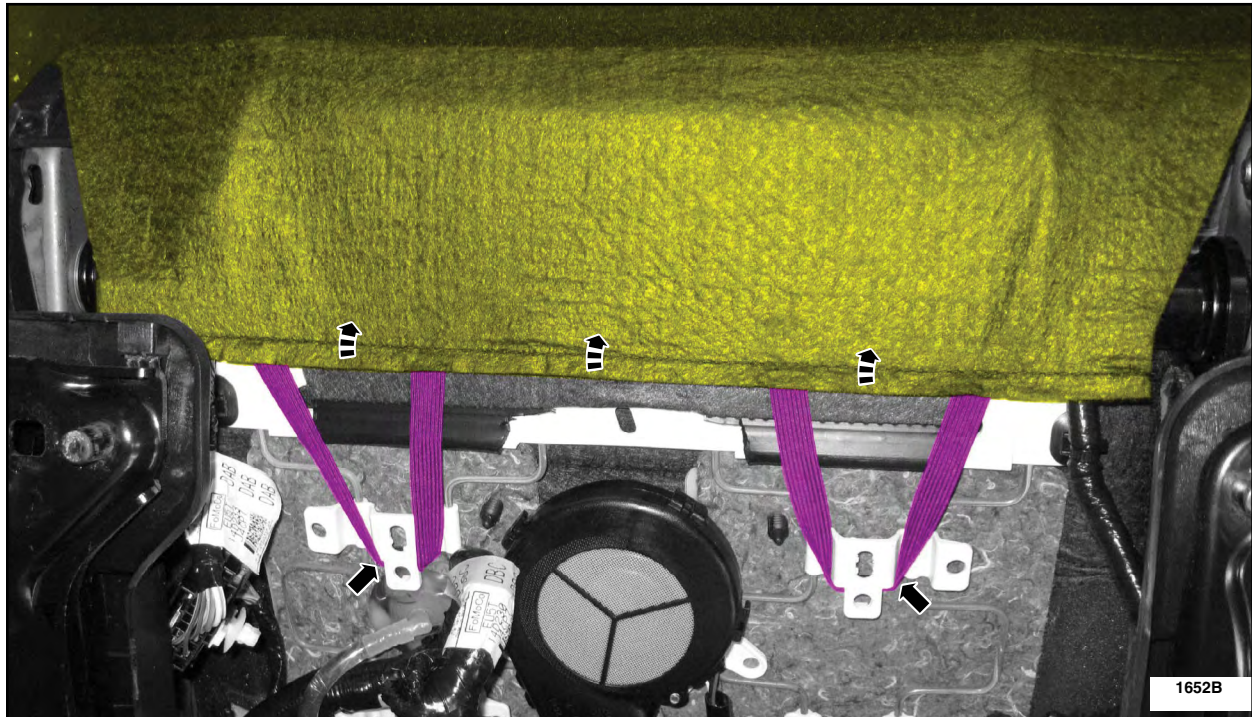


FIGURE 6

8. Detach the backrest cover lower J-clip. See Figure 7.

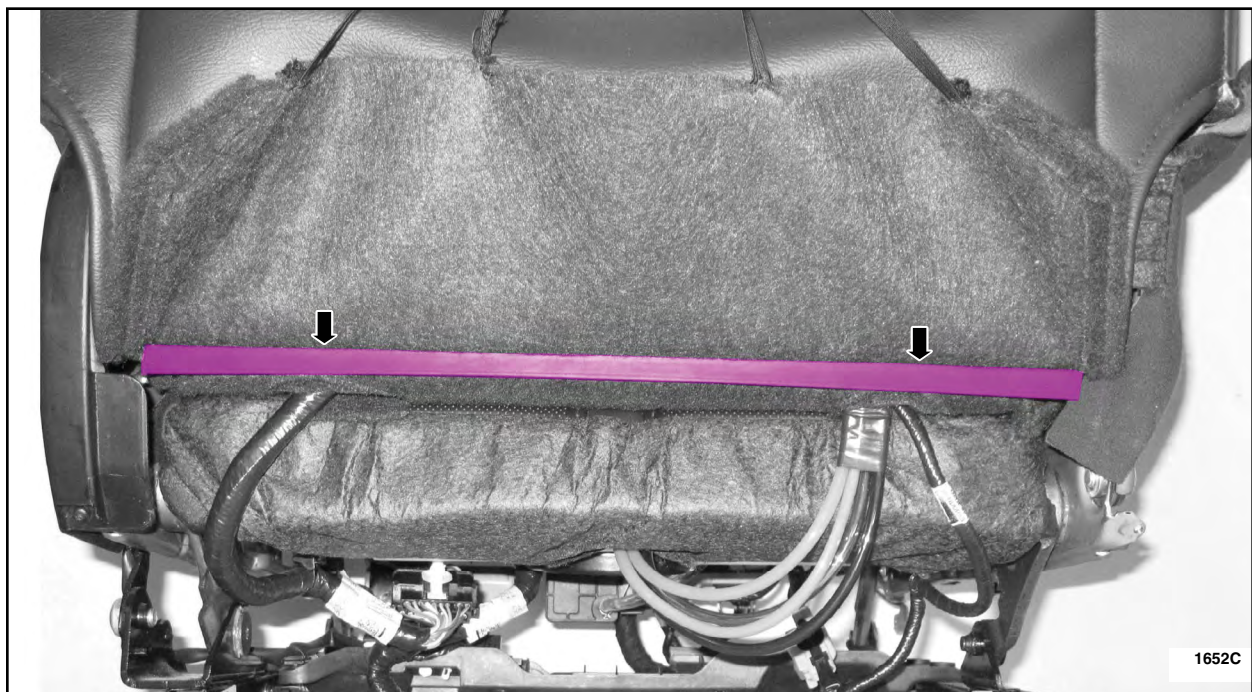


FIGURE 7



9. Detach the hook-and-loop retainer and position the backrest cover strap aside. See Figure 8.

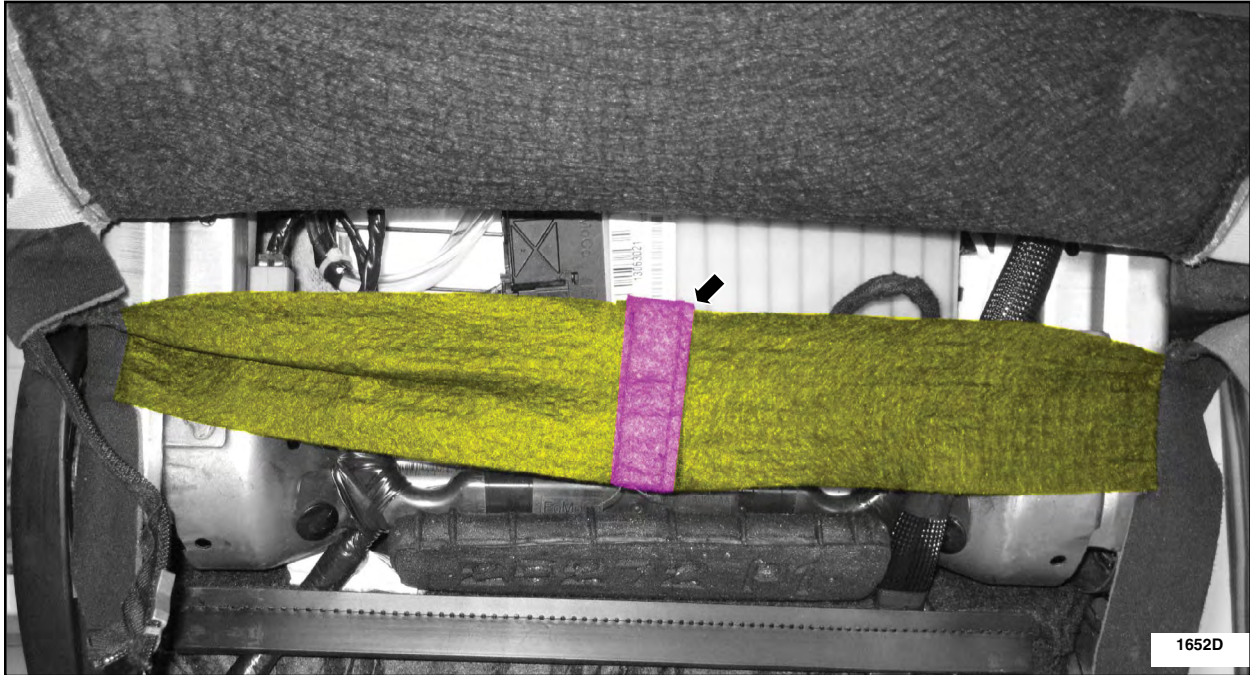


FIGURE 8

10. Remove the four push-pin retainers and position aside the wire harness to access the driver seat backrest frame label or engraved part information. See Figure 9.



FIGURE 9



11. Determine the driver seat backrest frame build date and shift build, which will be listed on a label or engraved on the backrest frame assembly. See Figures 10 and 11.

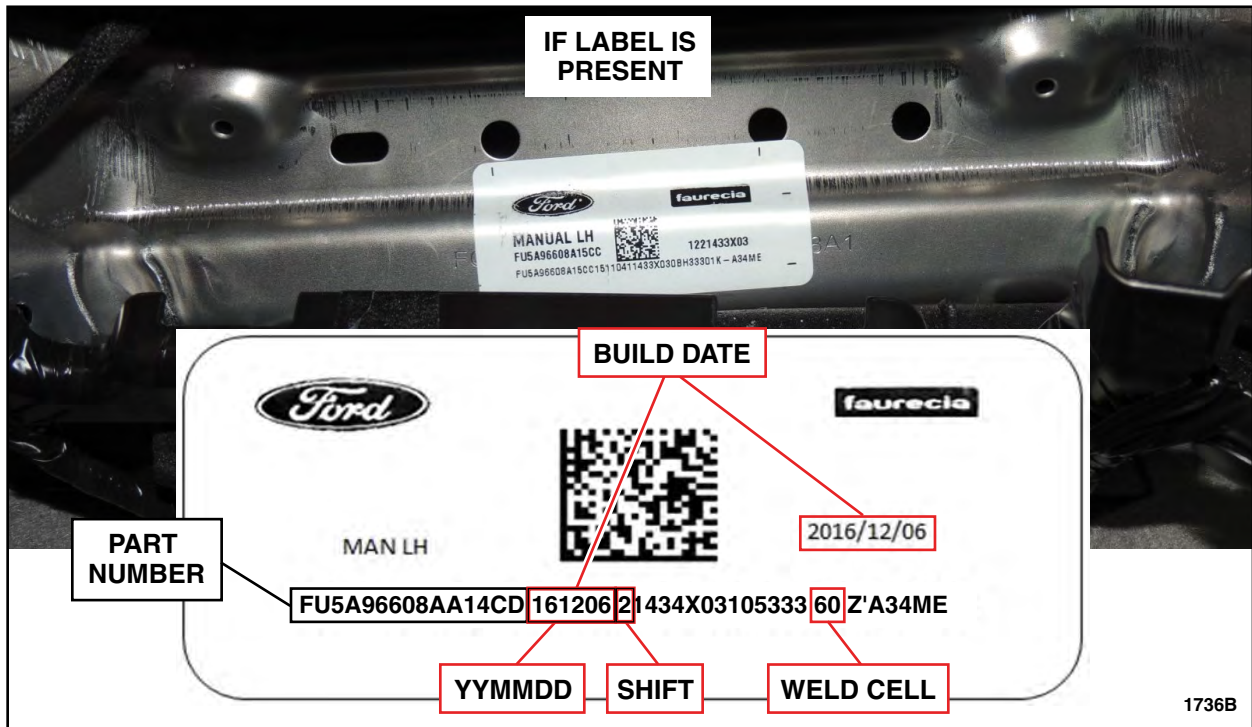


FIGURE 10

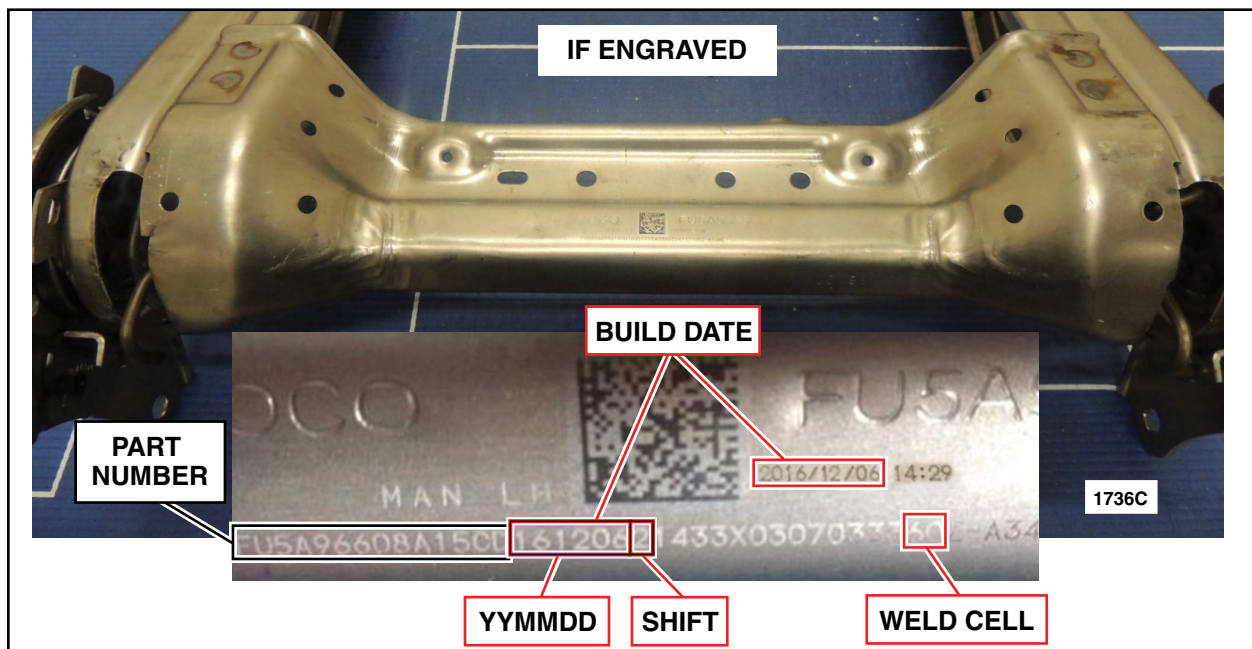


FIGURE 11



NOTE: Alternatively, a QR code scanner application can be used to retrieve the build date code using a smart phone or tablet.

- The build date code will be listed in YYMMDD format after the fourteen character engineering part number. See Figure 12.

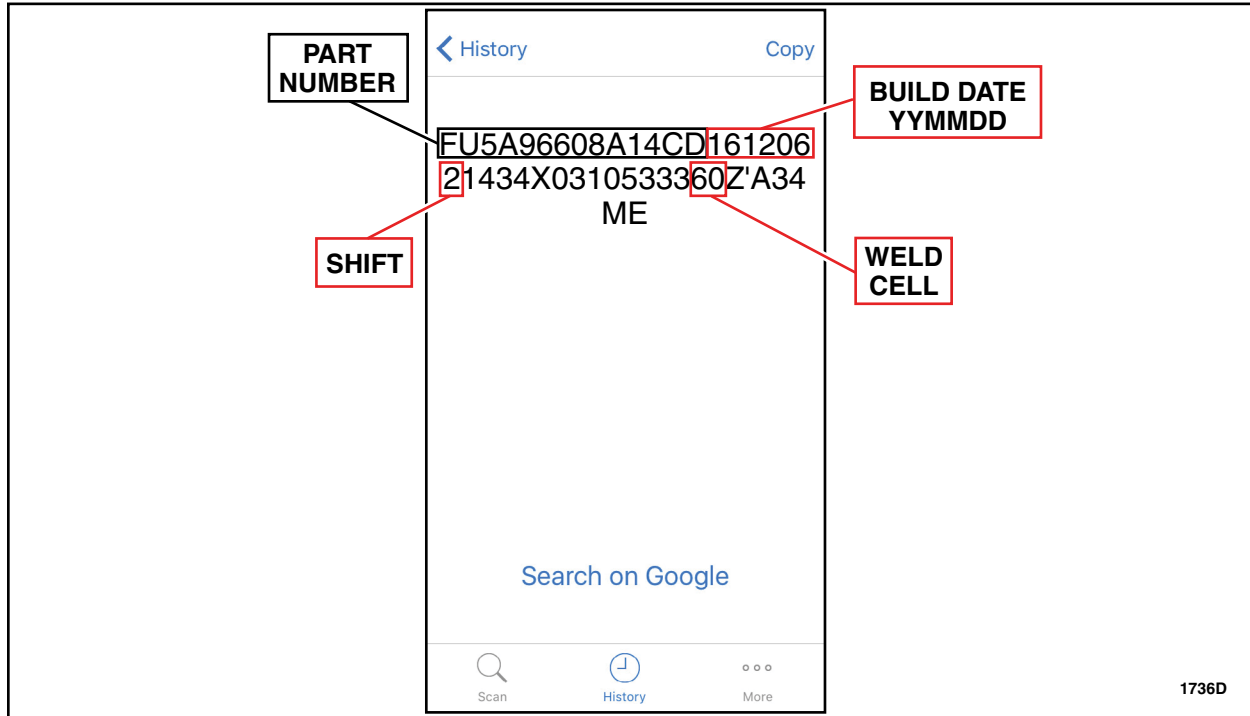


FIGURE 12

12. Was the driver seat backrest frame built on December 6, 2016 (161206) **and** built during the second shift?

NOTE: Second shift is indicated by the number 2 next to the build date.

NO - The driver seat backrest frame **PASSES** inspection and no further action is required.
Reverse the removal steps to reassemble the vehicle.

YES - The driver seat backrest frame **DOES NOT PASS** inspection and must be replaced.
Proceed to the Driver Seat Backrest Frame Replacement Procedure on Page 8.

NOTE: If you are not able to determine the weld cell, build date or shift build, contact the Special Service Support Center (SSSC) via the SSSC Web Contact Site and submit digital pictures of the weld marking and engraving or label.



F-Super Duty & F-150 Vehicles - Driver Seat Backrest Frame Replacement Procedure

NOTE: For F-150 vehicles, steps 2, 3 and 5 may have already been completed as part of the inspection.

1. Remove the driver front seat. Please follow the Workshop Manual (WSM) procedures in Section 501-10A.
2. If equipped with manual lumbar, adjust the lumbar to the fully relaxed position.
3. Remove the recline handle and lumbar knob (if equipped). See Figure 13.

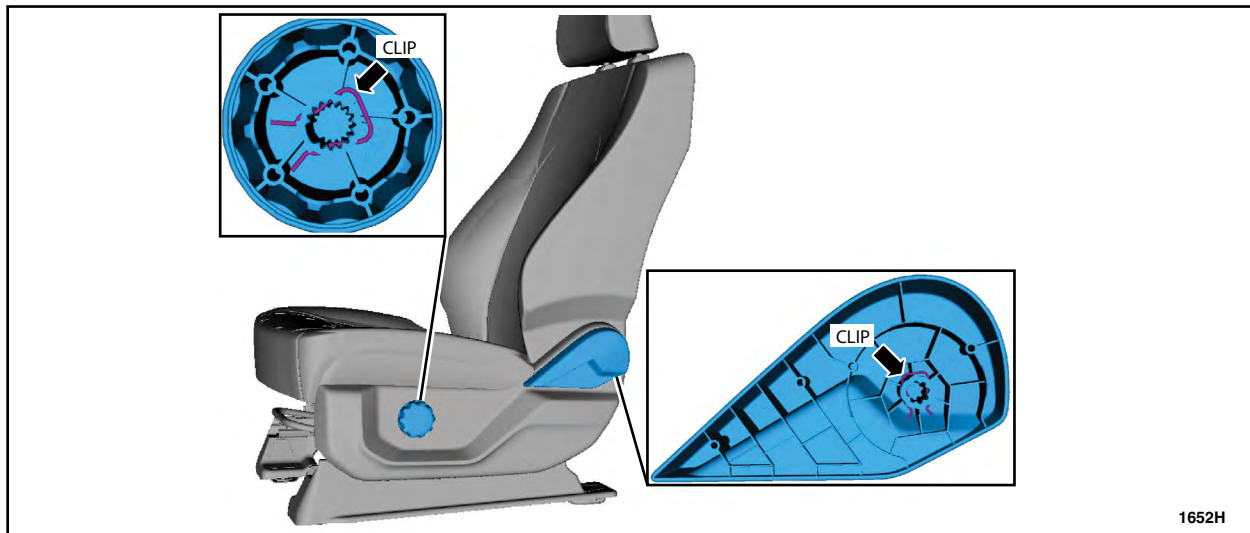


FIGURE 13

4. Remove the two head restraint guide sleeves. Please follow the WSM procedures in Section 501-10A.
5. Remove the two side shield screws. See Figure 14.

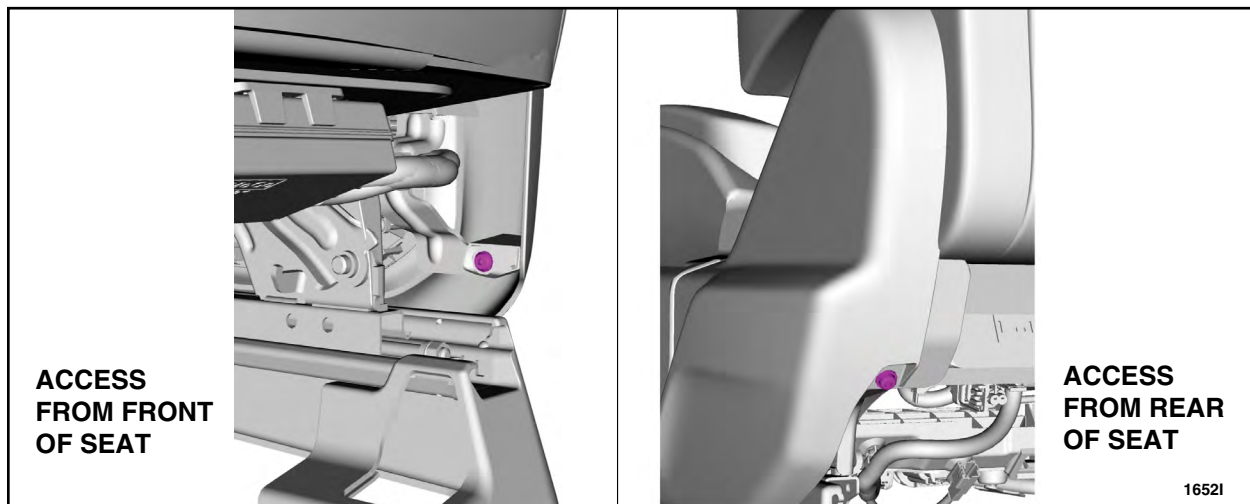


FIGURE 14



6. Remove the side shield. See Figure 15.

1. Lift up on the rear of the side shield and pull outward.
2. Push the side shield forward.
3. Disconnect the electrical connector.

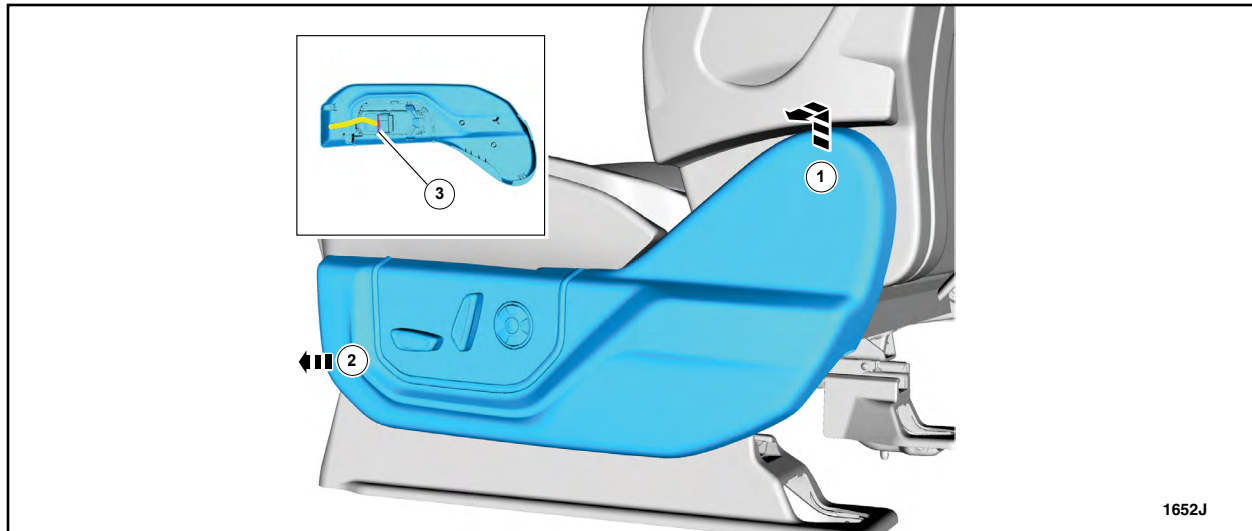


FIGURE 15

7. Remove the two screws and the inboard recline cover. See Figure 16.

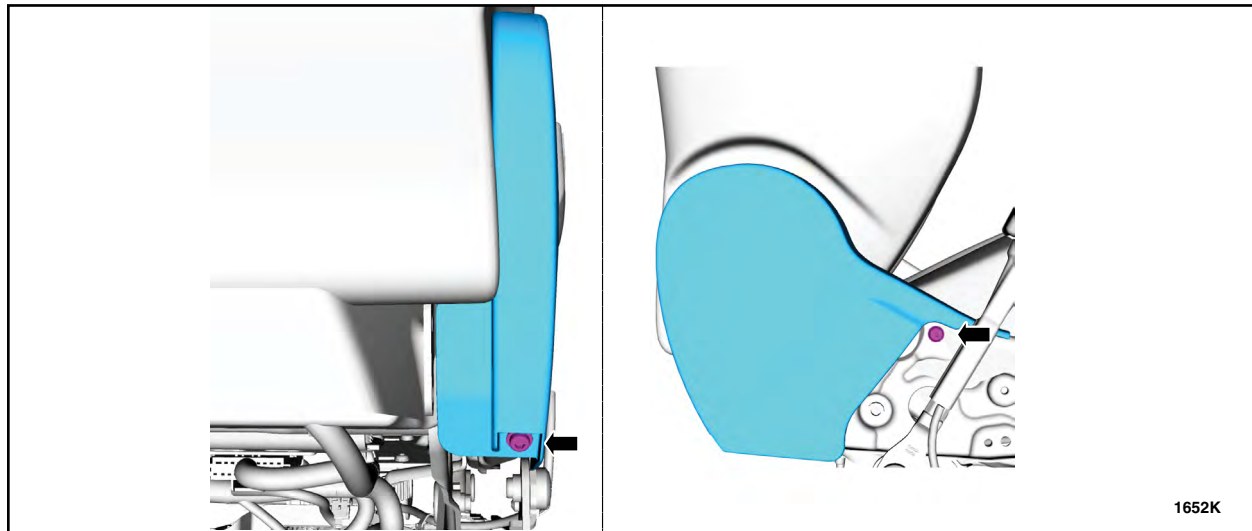


FIGURE 16



8. Remove the two seat cover side push-pins. See Figure 17.



FIGURE 17

NOTE: Do not separate the side airbag from the seat cover.

9. Remove the side airbag. Please follow the WSM procedures in Section 501-20B.

10. If equipped, detach the backrest cover J-clips from the lumbar support wire and position the backrest cover up. See Figure 18.

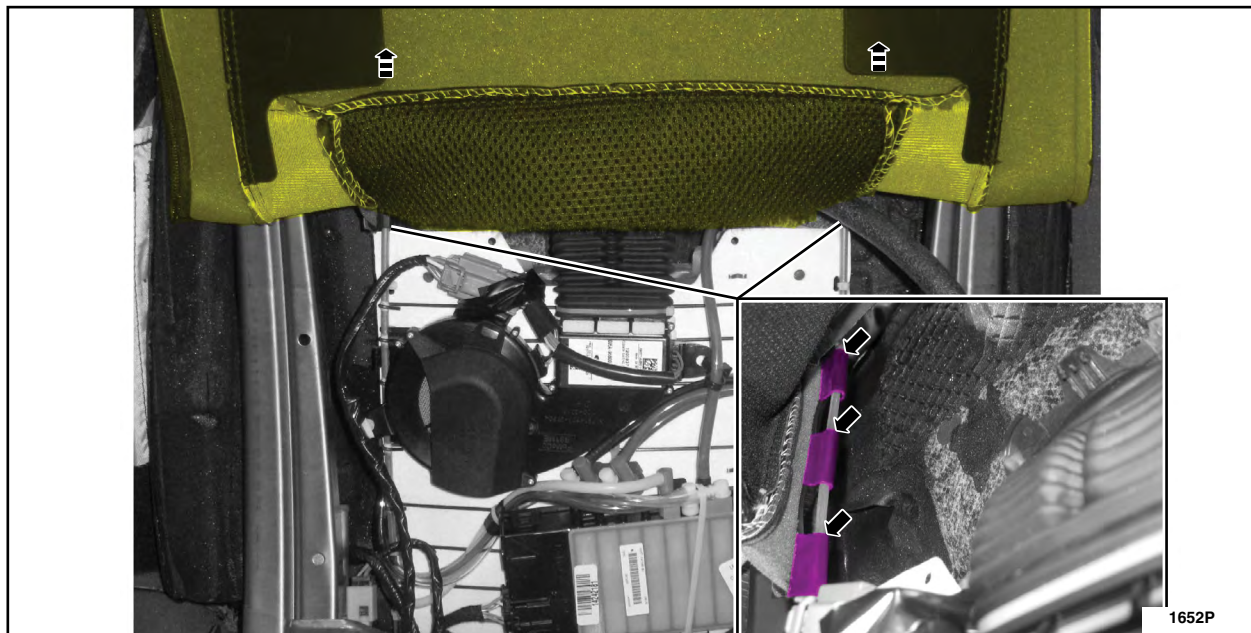


FIGURE 18



11. Remove the seat backrest cushion, cover, and the side airbag as an assembly. See Figure 19.



FIGURE 19

12. Remove and discard the four bolts and remove the front seat backrest. Disconnect the lumbar cable if equipped. See Figure 20.

- Torque: 33 lb.ft (45 Nm).

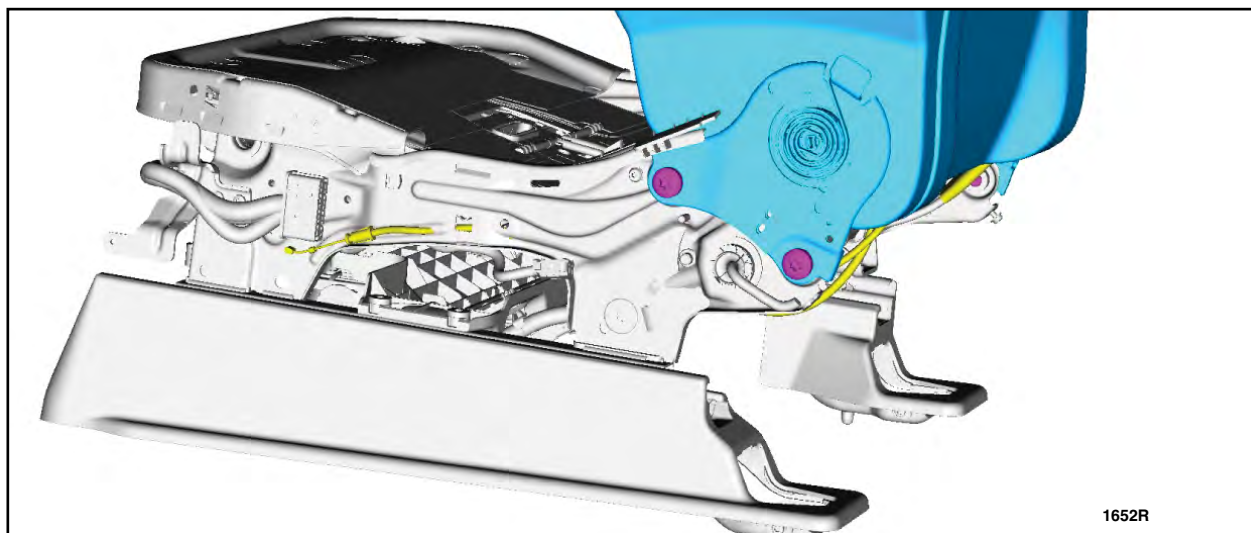


FIGURE 20



13. Remove the lumbar assembly. See Figures 21 and 22.

1. Release the lumbar assembly cable retainer (manual lumbar only).
2. Detach the lumbar assembly cable (manual lumbar only).
3. Detach the lumbar assembly J-hooks.
4. Detach the lumbar assembly upper J-hooks.
5. Disconnect the electrical connector (power lumbar only).

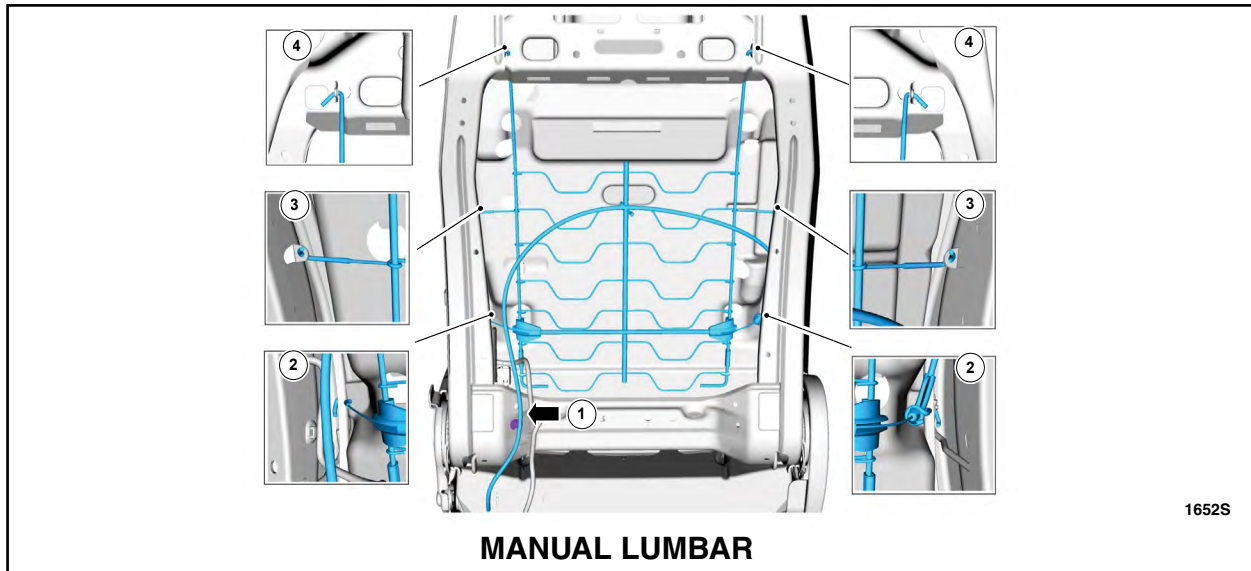


FIGURE 21

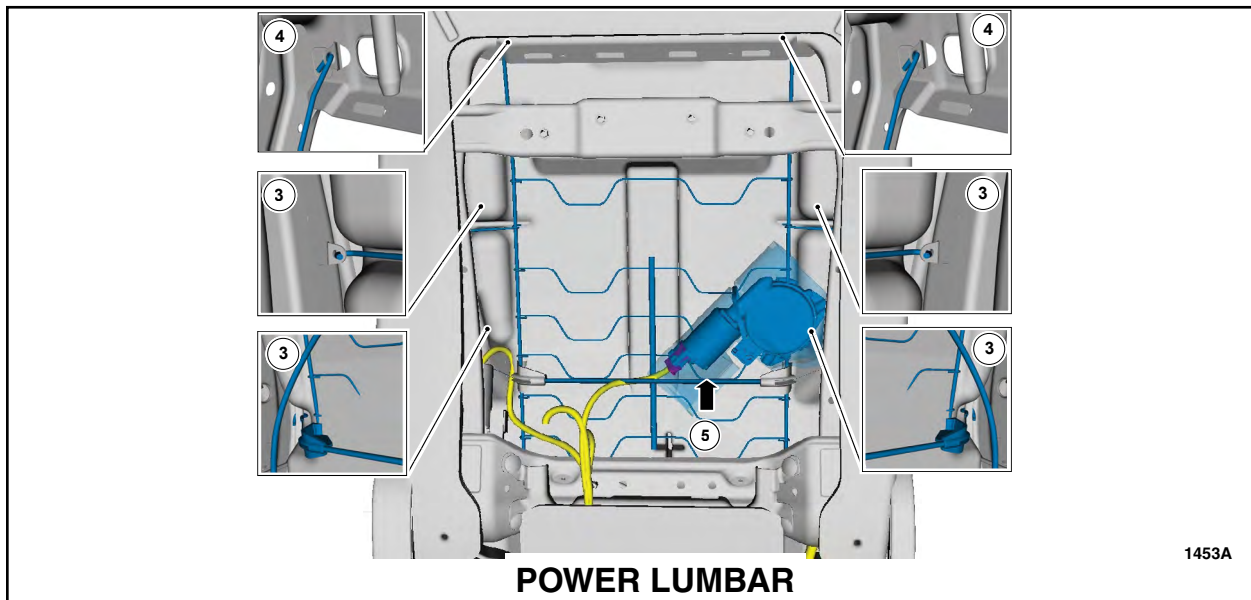


FIGURE 22

14. To install the *new* driver seat backrest frame, reverse the removal procedure.



Explorer Vehicles - Driver Seat Backrest Frame Replacement Procedure

1. Remove the driver front seat. Please follow the Workshop Manual (WSM) procedures in Section 501-10A.
2. Remove the two front head restraint guide sleeves. Please follow the WSM procedures in Section 501-10A.
3. If equipped, remove the recline handle. See Figure 23.

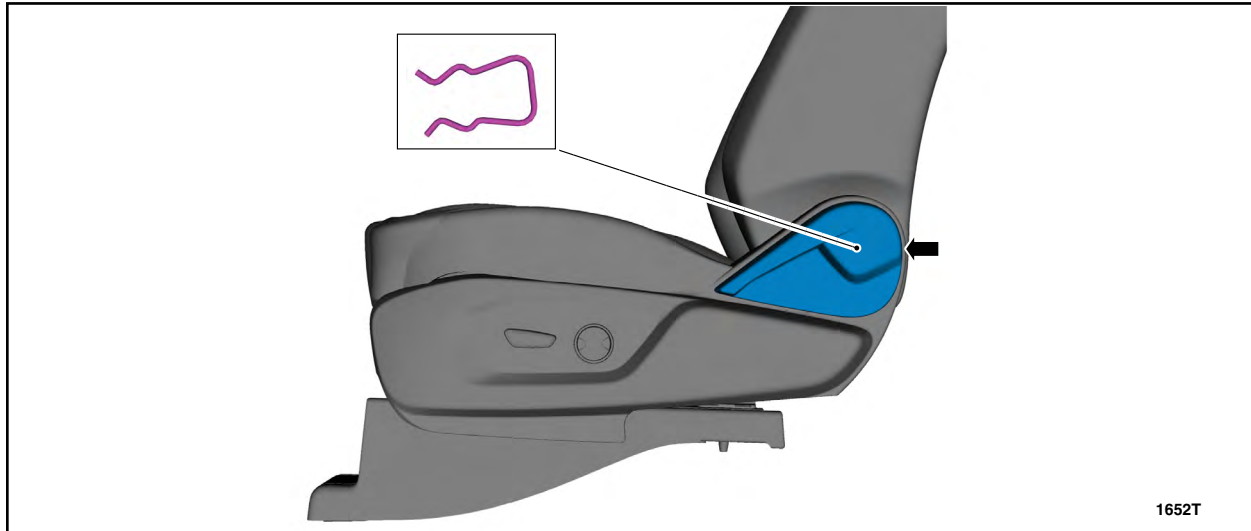


FIGURE 23

4. Remove the two side shield screws. See Figure 24.

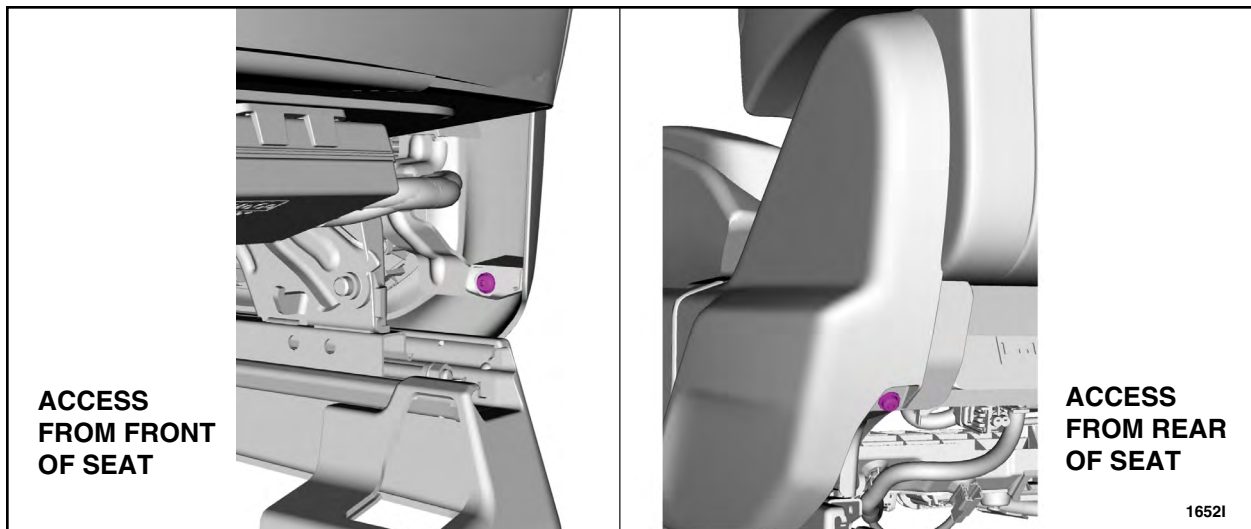


FIGURE 24



5. Remove the side shield. See Figure 25.

1. Lift up on the rear of the side shield and pull outward.
2. Push the side shield forward.
3. Disconnect the electrical connector.

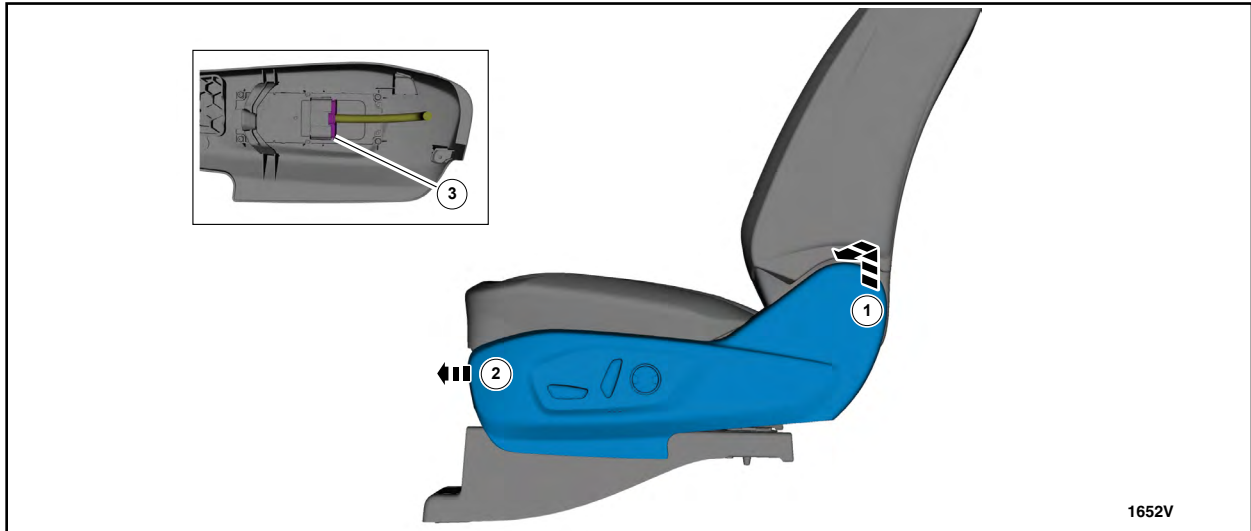


FIGURE 25

6. Remove the two screws and the inboard recline cover. See Figure 26.

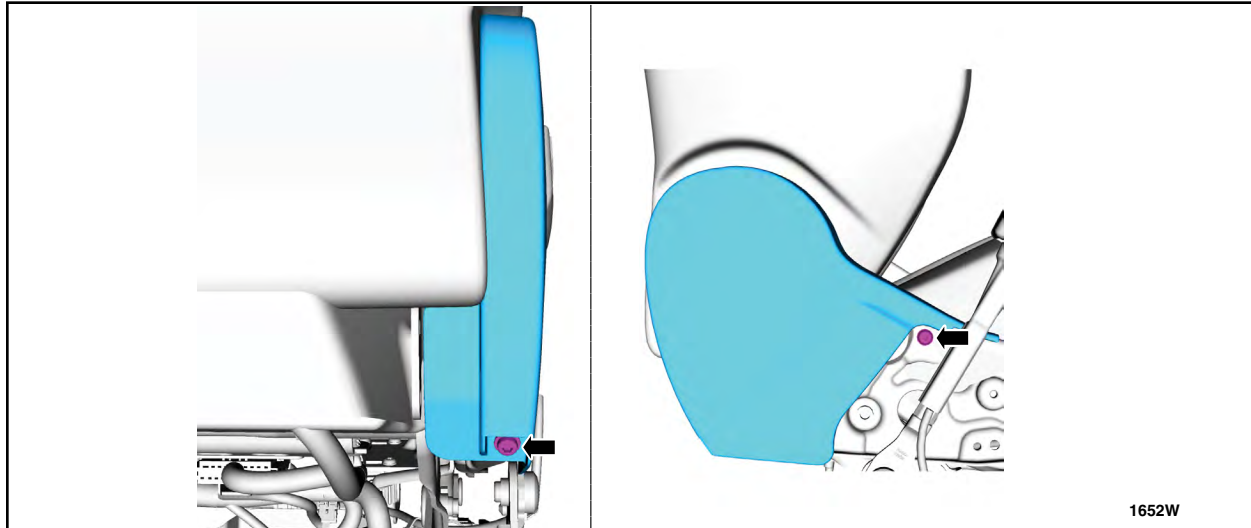


FIGURE 26



NOTE: Do not separate the side airbag from the cushion cover.

7. Remove the side airbag. Please follow the WSM procedures in Section 501-20B.
8. Remove the seat backrest cushion, cover, and the side airbag as an assembly. See Figure 27.



FIGURE 27

9. Remove and discard the four bolts and remove the front seat backrest. See Figure 28.

- Torque: 33 lb.ft (45 Nm).

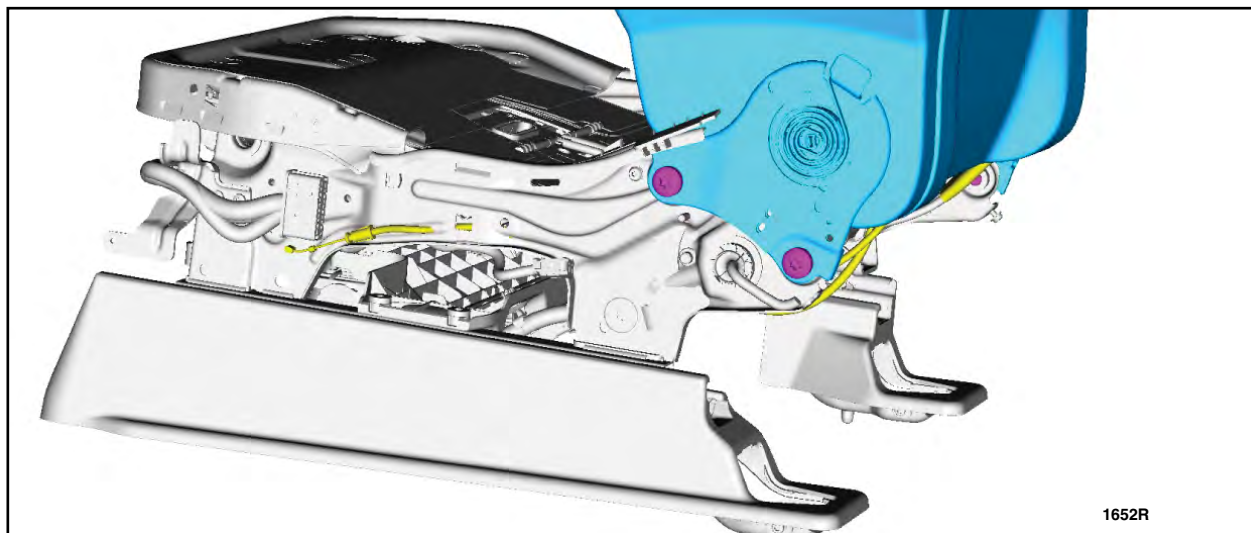


FIGURE 28



10. Disconnect the electrical connector, release the J-hooks, and remove the power lumbar assembly.
See Figure 29.

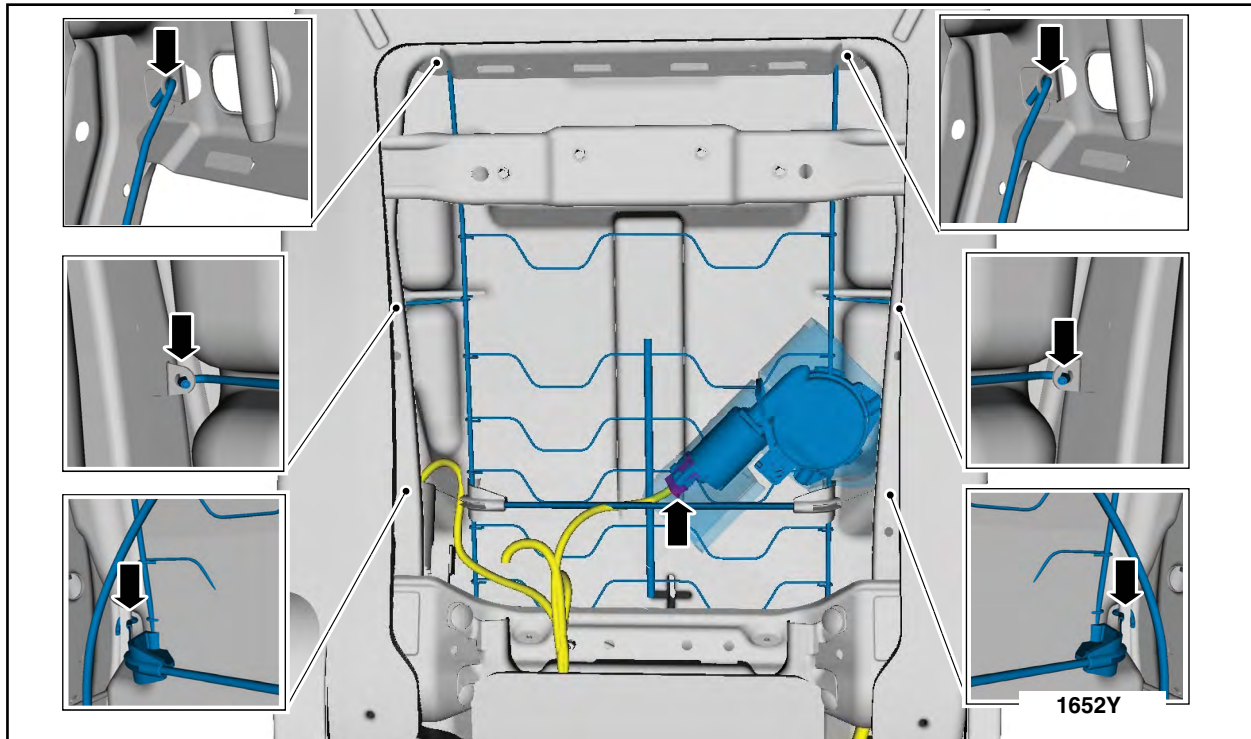


FIGURE 29

11. To install the *new* driver seat backrest frame, reverse the removal procedure.

