

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor's Teen Safe Driving Task Force

FROM: Legislative Subcommittee (Brendan Campbell, Sherry Chapman, Tim Hollister, James MacPherson, Dean Pagani, and David Preusser)

DATE: January 9, 2008

RE: **Long-Term Proposals, for Discussion by Full Task Force for Report By June 1, 2008**

Minimum Age For Learner's Permit

1. Increase minimum age to obtain learner's permit to 16 years, 6 months.

18 – 19 Year Olds

2. Review education and training requirement for 18 and 19 year olds who apply for learner's permits.

Training And Education

3. Improve statewide new driver curriculum to include higher risk driving conditions and motor vehicle maneuvers.
4. Improve driver training materials available to supervising parents/guardians.

Parent/Guardian Awareness/Education/Oversight

5. Provide for parents/guardians to be notified of moving violations by drivers under age 18.
6. Require all teenage applicants for learner's permit to file with DMV signed "Parent-Teen Driving Contract" – using Connecticut Teen Partnership contract as model.

7. Allow parents/guardians to initiate/obtain license suspensions or revocations for drivers under age 18.
8. Mandate an education session for parents/guardians of new 16 to 17 year old learner's permit holders.
9. Create parent education programs on available technology to track teen drivers:
 - a. global positioning systems;
 - b. speed recorders;
 - c. event data recorders;
 - d. one-way cell phones (outgoing calls to 911 only, incoming only from parent/guardian);
 - e. on-board breathalyzers; and
 - f. seat belt ignition links.

Penalties

10. Overall, consider whether driver's license for a 16 – 17 year old is a right that can only be taken away by enforcement action or a privilege subject to immediate/prompt suspension/revocation for certain offenses. Currently, once license is granted, it becomes a right subject to suspension/revocation only after time-consuming process.
11. Increase minimum suspension for conviction of driving under influence of alcohol or drugs, or operating vehicle while using cell phone/electronic communications, to 18 years of age or two years from violation, whichever is longer.
12. Shorten timeframe for DMV-required driver retraining after two moving violations.

Enforcement

13. Require 16 and 17 year old drivers to prominently display an identifying windshield sticker when they are operating the vehicle (as is required in England).
14. Institute programs at high school parking lot exits to check for compliance with passenger restrictions and seat belt requirements.

Data Gathering/Public Opinion

15. Conduct statewide survey of parent awareness and attitudes.
16. Study recent comprehensive amendments in other states, especially Illinois, Massachusetts, Oregon, and New Jersey study group report due March 2008.

Administration

17. Improve coordination or reporting of convictions among DOT, DMV, criminal courts.

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