

From:

To:

Dear State Senator or Representative,

Car crashes are the number one cause of teen deaths in America, killing more than 5,000 each year. Your support for improved teen driving laws is urgently needed.

Research shows that states with graduated driver licensing have significantly lower fatality rates. That's why I hope you will unequivocally support graduated driver licensing improvements needed in our state. An ideal law would set the minimum age for a learner's permit at 16, limit new teen drivers to no more than one teen passenger, and prohibit driving between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. The law would also ban cell phone use and texting by teen drivers and not allow a full license until age 18.

I hope you'll support a law that imposes stiff penalties—including having a license taken away for up to a year—for speeding, reckless driving, not wearing a seat belt, and other dangerous driving. Tough and strictly enforced DUI laws are also a crucial part of keeping our teens safe.

Education and effective laws are the best ways to combat driver inexperience, teen speeding, and distraction. These laws have public support and will go a long way toward reducing teen crash rates. By supporting these laws, you will be helping to save the lives of teens and all others who use our roads.

Sincerely,

Date: _____