

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 171

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding graduated driver's license programs.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding graduated driver's license programs.

Whereas teenage drivers have the highest rate of automobile accidents of all age groups;

Whereas a graduated driver's license program is a program specifically designed to phase in driving privileges for new drivers, allowing such drivers to gradually gain driving experience under lower risk conditions;

Whereas more than 45 States have adopted some form of graduated driver's license program;

Whereas graduated driver's license programs usually require new drivers to complete a 3-stage licensing process, including (1) a supervised learner's permit, (2) an intermediate license with restrictions, including restrictions re-

garding the number of passengers and nighttime driving, and (3) an unrestricted driver's license;

Whereas graduated driver's license programs also include other initiatives to promote driver safety, including advanced driver education, requirements regarding supervised behind-the-wheel experience, and mandatory seat belt use for all passengers;

Whereas the use of a 3-stage graduated driver's license program has demonstrated great promise in reducing the number of accidents, injuries, and fatalities caused by automobiles; and

Whereas many States have already established a graduated driver's license program and have experienced a reduction in automobile-related accidents and fatalities among young and inexperienced drivers: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3            (1) each State should—

4                    (A) examine the benefits of establishing a  
5                    graduated driver's license program if the State  
6                    has not yet established such a program; or

7                    (B) fully monitor, review, and improve the  
8                    existing graduated driver's license program of  
9                    the State;

10            (2) the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-  
11            ministration should continue its studies and pro-  
12            grams regarding the effects of graduated driver's li-  
13            cense programs on improving automobile safety;

1           (3) the National Transportation Safety Board  
2           should be commended for placing and keeping grad-  
3           uated driver's license programs on its list of most  
4           wanted safety recommendations; and

5           (4) the American Automobile Association, the  
6           Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the Na-  
7           tional Association of Governors' Highway Safety  
8           Representatives, and other groups dedicated to auto-  
9           mobile safety should be praised for their sustained  
10          and successful efforts to educate the public regard-  
11          ing the benefits of graduated driver's license pro-  
12          grams and for their successful efforts to establish  
13          such programs in many States.

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