



Ohio Chapter

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March 26, 2019

The Honorable Doug Green

Chair, House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chairman Green, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee—

On behalf of the 2,900 members of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, I am writing today to offer support for House Bill 106, sponsored by State Representatives Gary Scherer and Michael Sheehy.

This legislation would enact modest, but meaningful changes to Ohio's Graduated Driver Licensing Laws. Over the past five years, there were more than 38,000 injuries to teen drivers, including many fatalities. Ohio currently has the 7th highest rate of teen fatality and injury crashes. Studies have shown that many of these accidents could have been prevented with additional training and proven driving restrictions for new drivers.

HB 106 would lengthen the timeframe for temporary instruction from 6 months to 12 months and restricts driving between 10:00pm and 6:00am for holders of a probationary drivers license. Exemptions to the nighttime restriction are included for work, school, and religious activities. Research continues to show that a disproportionate number of fatal accidents occur among teen drivers at night.

Passage of HB 106 will result in fewer accidents among teen drivers and more lives saved. This issue has been debated extensively at the Ohio Statehouse and I am confident that the timing is right to take this important step.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Wervey Arnold".

Melissa Wervey Arnold
Chief Executive Officer
Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics