



**KATIE A. JONES, REGIONAL COUNSEL\***

**NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

27555 Executive Drive, Suite 300

Farmington Hills, MI 48331

(248) 804-4043

katie.jones@allstate.com

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The Honorable Doug Green  
77 South High Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Green:

Allstate is proud to join the Ohio Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Coalition in support of H.B. 106, sponsored by Representatives Gary Scherer (R) and Michael Sheehy (D). Lengthening the temporary instruction permit from 6 to 12 months and ensuring that newly licensed teenage drivers are supervised while driving after 10 P.M. for the first 6 months of licensure (with limited exemptions) makes Ohio's roads safer.

Young driver crash rates in Ohio remain unnecessarily high. Nearly 38,000 injuries and fatalities occurred in Ohio teen driver crashes during the past 5 years. That's an average of 20 injuries and fatalities every day. This legislation gives Ohio teens additional behind-the-wheel experience with an adult – helping them become safe drivers.

Ohio is now 7<sup>th</sup> in the country for the highest number of teen fatality and injury crashes, according to a report by Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. According to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety about two thirds of those injured or killed in teen driver crashes are someone other than the teen driver. Enacting the proposed changes in H.B. 106 makes the roads safer for all drivers.

By switching to a 12-month permit phase every new driver is ensured the chance to practice driving with an adult in all four seasons. For a new driver, experiencing driving during all types of weather is invaluable.

Nighttime driving protections for newly licensed young drivers protect them from the most dangerous driving conditions while they are still inexperienced and adjusting to driving without adult supervision. It is important to reiterate that this 10 p.m. protection is not a curfew and current law exemptions remain in place if you have work, school, or religious activities.

Passing H.B. 106 modernizes Ohio's young driver licensing system, provides teens with greater protection, gives their parents more peace of mind, and makes the roads safer. A modern young driver licensing system keeps Ohio's teens, families and communities safe and strong. Allstate asks for your support in enacting this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Katie A. Jones, Esq.