March 25, 2019

The Honorable Doug Green

77 South High Street, 13th Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Green:

As a leader in the automotive insurance industry for nearly 100 years, and as a supporter of research and development of methods critical to keeping young drivers safe on the roadways, State Farm® supports H.B. 106. This bill will enhance safety on roadways in Ohio through two adjustments to the young driver licensing system:

1. Lengthening the temporary instruction permit from 6 to 12 months; and
2. Ensuring newly licensed teen drivers are supervised while driving after 10 p.m., rather than midnight, for the first 6 months of licensure, with exemptions for work, school and religious activities.

This bill is about valuable, supervised, behind the wheel experience. The 12-month permit phase will ensure that every new driver has the chance to practice driving with an adult during all four seasons. 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.

Passing H.B. 106 is good for Ohio. A more robust graduated driver licensing system will make Ohio’s roads safer. State Farm asks that you to support this legislation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susanna Hinton Berna, State Counsel

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company