

DRIVER'S EDUCATION & TRAINING

- WHEREAS, Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 20 years old, with two out of five deaths being the result of a motor vehicle crash; and
- WHEREAS, In 2004 alone, licensed young drivers comprised 11% of licensed Missouri drivers, but accounted for 29% of traffic crashes; and
- WHEREAS, From 1990-2005, statistics from the Missouri Highway Patrol, 24.1% of the fatality crashes involved young drivers including the deaths of a total of 3,677 young drivers; and
- WHEREAS, There has been a decline of Driver's Education programs offered within the 524 Missouri public school districts during the traditional school calendar from 228 districts in 1990 to 49 districts in 2005; and
- WHEREAS, Several states have established Driver's Education Funds from fees attached to moving violations and Missouri has only a comparable motorcycle fund for motorcycle safety programs; and
- WHEREAS, Many of the leading causes of crashes among young drivers can be addressed through proper Driver's Education programs; and
- WHEREAS, Missouri adopted a Graduated Driver's License program which requires parents to supervise their child's practice driving for 40 hours; and
- WHEREAS, The Graduated Driver's License program has proven effective in reducing the number of traffic crashes and fatalities among young drivers despite "how to" information for parents being limited; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, encourage all local school districts to offer Driver's Education instruction for elective credit; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, urge legislators to provide a means of funding to local school districts, so that proper Driver's Education and Training can be provided in all of Missouri's public school districts; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, provide information and programs to help teens become responsible drivers and to stress the importance of the parental role in the Graduated Driver's License Program.

Adopted 2006