

House Resolution

No. 24

Introduced by Assembly Member Galgiani

February 9, 2010

House Resolution No. 24—Relative to Teen Driving Safety Week.

1 WHEREAS, Law enforcement and other first responders,
2 teachers, parents, and friends are all deeply impacted by the loss
3 of teens from vehicle accidents on California’s roadways; and

4 WHEREAS, Drivers in California between 15 and 19 years of
5 age are at least three times more likely to be in a fatal vehicle
6 collision than drivers 30 years of age and older; and

7 WHEREAS, There is no in-car driver training in California’s
8 high schools and even though driver’s education is required as part
9 of California’s public education curricula, only about one-third of
10 the high schools actually offer it due to budget and staff limitations;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, A 16-year-old soccer player has had about 1,500
13 hours of coached soccer practice, but only 50 hours of driving
14 practice before getting his or her driver’s license; and

15 WHEREAS, Seventy-seven percent of the 16-year-old drivers
16 killed in traffic accidents in California were at fault; and

17 WHEREAS, Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of
18 death of teens, accounting for 40 percent of all teen deaths; and

19 WHEREAS, The majority of crashes involving teen drivers in
20 the United States are due to driver distractions and speeding, and
21 15 percent of the crashes are due to drunken driving; and

22 WHEREAS, Despite the fact that California has the highest rate
23 of seat belt usage in the nation, 37 percent of the 16-year-old

1 passengers who died in traffic collisions in California were not
2 wearing their seat belts; and

3 WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of the deaths of teen
4 passengers, aged 13 to 19 years, occur when other teenagers are
5 driving; and

6 WHEREAS, One in three teen drivers has an accident in his or
7 her first year of driving; and

8 WHEREAS, It is necessary to raise awareness, reach teens,
9 parents, and teachers, and influence change in risky teen driving
10 behavior in order to reduce the number of teens killed on
11 California’s roadways each year; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*
13 *week of March 21, 2010, be declared “Teen Driving Safety Week”*
14 *and that the State of California observe this week, with the help*
15 *of law enforcement organizations, teachers, parents, students, and*
16 *the IMPACT Teen Driver’s Campaign, with appropriate activities*
17 *that promote the practice of safe driving among teenage drivers;*
18 *and be it further*

19 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*
20 *of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*