

**Introduced by Senator Lowenthal**

January 26, 2010

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to Teen Driving Safety Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 65, as introduced, Lowenthal. Teen Driving Safety Week.

This measure would declare the week of March 21, 2010, as “Teen Driving Safety Week” and that the State of California should observe this week, with the help of law enforcement organizations, teachers, parents, students, and the IMPACT Teen Driver’s Campaign, with appropriate activities that promote the practice of safe driving among teenage drivers.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 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

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

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

5 WHEREAS, The majority of teen drivers involved in crashes  
6 in the United States are due to driver distractions and speeding  
7 and 15 percent of the crashes are due to drunken driving; and

8 WHEREAS, Despite the fact that California has the highest rate  
9 of seat belt usage in the nation, 37 percent of the 16-year-old  
10 passengers who died in traffic collisions in California were not  
11 wearing their seat belts; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of teen (13 to 19 years  
13 of age) passenger deaths occur when other teenagers are driving;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, One in three teen drivers has an accident in their  
16 first year of driving; and

17 WHEREAS, It is necessary to raise awareness, reach teens,  
18 parents, and teachers and influence change in risky teen driving  
19 behavior in order to reduce the number of teens killed on  
20 California's roadways each year; now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved, by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
22 *thereof concurring*, That the week of March 21, 2010, be declared  
23 "Teen Driving Safety Week" and that the State of California  
24 observe this week, with the help of law enforcement organizations,  
25 teachers, parents, students, and the IMPACT Teen Driver's  
26 Campaign, with appropriate activities that promote the practice of  
27 safe driving among teenage drivers.

28 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
29 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.