

STATE OF OHIO

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

IN RECOGNITION OF National Teen Driver Safety Week October 17-24, 2010

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15 to 20 year-olds in the United States. Nationally, teens make up just over 6 percent of all licensed drivers, but accounted for 12 percent of all drivers in fatal crashes and 14 percent of drivers in all crashes in 2008. Teens in Ohio mirror this trend, making up the largest percentage of any age group of drivers involved in fatal crashes, as well as the largest percentage of drivers in error of any age group involved in fatal crashes on Ohio's roads in 2009.

About two in three fatal crashes involving teens are due to driver error, including mistakes due to inexperience and distractions. Young people being lost to death and debilitating injury before having a chance to live a full life is a problem that impacts families, parents, peers, communities and our state. We need a variety of partners, from teens themselves, to parents, to law enforcement and other safety advocates to do everything possible to help teens learn to keep themselves safe behind the wheel.

National Teen Driver Safety Week will increase awareness of this issue throughout Ohio as additional research is conducted on the national level to develop and test effective innovations that will help teenagers become safer drivers.

Now, Therefore, I, Ted Strickland, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize October 17-24, 2010 to be

National Teen Driver Safety Week in Ohio

and I call upon the Department of Public Safety to work with various partners, in coordination with our national partners, to promote policies and fund programs that are most likely to improve driver safety outcomes for teens. I call upon all Ohioans to recognize the importance of creating awareness for the issue, all parents to play an active role in their teen's driving skill development and I call upon all teens to take the privilege of driving seriously and do everything possible to ensure they are safe, responsible drivers.

On this 8th day of October 2010,



Ted Strickland
Governor