ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 18

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman ROBERT AUTH
District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)
Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Designates third full week in December as "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/25/2020)

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the third full week in December of each year as "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week," in honor of Kyleigh D'Alessio.

WHEREAS, During the third week of December 2006, Kyleigh D'Alessio, a 16-year old honor student and recognized athlete from Long Valley, New Jersey, died in a motor vehicle accident involving a young driver with multiple passengers; and

WHEREAS, In New Jersey, teenagers 17 to 20 years of age represent just five percent of the population, but are involved in 12 percent of motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death of teenagers, accounting for 40 percent of all teenage deaths; and

WHEREAS, The majority of teenage **driver** motor vehicle collisions in the United States are due to **driver** distractions and speeding, and 15 percent are due to drunk driving; and

WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of teenage passenger deaths, involving persons 13 years of age to 19 years of age, occur when other teenagers are driving; and

WHEREAS, One in three teenage **drivers** is involved in a motor vehicle accident during the first year of driving; and

WHEREAS, In order to prevent similar tragedies, it is necessary to raise awareness among teenagers, parents, and teachers, and to effect a change in unsafe driving behavior so that the number of teenagers who die on New Jersey's roadways each year is dramatically reduced; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. In honor of Kyleigh D'Alessio, the third full week in December of each year in New Jersey is designated as "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week" to foster awareness and promote safe driving practices among teenage drivers.

b. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State to observe "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week" with appropriate activities and programs.

2. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the third full week in December of each year as "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week," in honor of Kyleigh D'Alessio, to foster awareness and promote safe driving practices among teenage drivers. Raising awareness among

teenagers, parents, and teachers, is crucial to effect a change in unsafe driving behavior so that the number of teenagers who die on New Jersey's roadways each year is dramatically reduced.

Ms. D'Alessio was a 16-year old honor student and recognized athlete from Long Valley, New Jersey, who died in a motor vehicle accident involving a young driver with multiple passengers. Promoting safe driving practices is vital to prevent similar tragedies. The resolution respectfully requests that the Governor annually issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State to observe "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Week" with appropriate activities and programs.