

# Make Ohio's Roads Safer

## It is Time to Modernize Our Young Driver Licensing System with House Bill 293

A modern young driver licensing system is a proven effective strategy for reducing teen driver crashes, making travel safer for young drivers and everyone who shares the roads with them. Unfortunately, Ohio's system for licensing young drivers hasn't kept up with the latest research on teen driver crashes and how to prevent them. As a result, young driver crash rates in Ohio remain unnecessarily high and have rapidly increased in recent years.

8,300 injuries and fatalities occurred in Ohio teen driver crashes in 2016

This is a 15% increase from 2014

On average, 23 injuries or fatalities occurred every day

The good news is that modernizing Ohio's young driver licensing system requires only two small but important adjustments to bring it in line with current scientific evidence:

- Lengthen the Temporary Instruction Permit from 6 to 12 months
- Begin nighttime supervised driving protections for newly licensed drivers at 9 p.m., rather than midnight.

[House Bill 293](#), sponsored by Representative, [Gary Scherer](#) (R) and Representative [Michael Sheehy](#) (D) and co-sponsor [Hearcel F. Craig](#) (D), proposes to do just that.

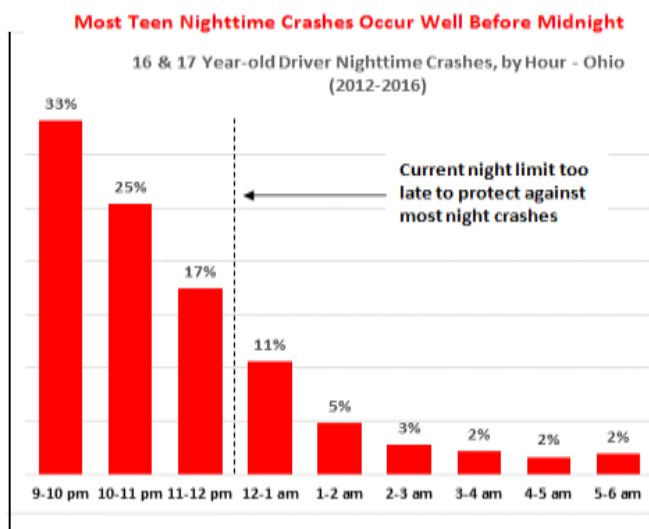
Modernizing Ohio's young driver licensing system in this way will provide teens with greater protection, give their parents more peace of mind, and make the roads safer for everyone. A modern young driver licensing system keeps Ohio's teens, families and communities safe and strong.

### Lengthen the Temporary Instruction Permit from 6 to 12 Months

Ohio's young driver licensing system currently gives beginning drivers only 6 months to learn to be safe drivers. Research clearly indicates this is not long enough. A 12-month permit phase ensures every new driver has the chance to practice driving in all weather conditions with an adult along to help keep them safe. Parents of teen drivers in states that have a 12-month permit are extremely supportive.

### Supervised Driving After 9 p.m.

Nighttime driving protections for newly licensed drivers protect them from the most dangerous driving conditions while they are still inexperienced and adjusting to driving without adult supervision. Ohio's current limit is much too late to do that, because the vast majority of Ohio's young driver nighttime crashes occur from 9 p.m. – midnight. Beginning nighttime driving protections at 9:00 p.m. helps ensure that newly licensed drivers are not exposed to this high-risk time before they develop the skills needed to cope with the dangers of driving at night.



For more information or to get involved please contact Kimberly Schwind, [kschwind@aaaohio.com](mailto:kschwind@aaaohio.com) or Cheryl Parker, [cparker@aaa-alliedgroup.com](mailto:cparker@aaa-alliedgroup.com).