

Teen Drivers: Crashes Waiting to Happen



Public Policy Initiatives
GHSA Annual Meeting
August 31, 2009

GDL Laws

- Some form of GDL in all 50 states; numerous “strengthening” bills pending
- Not all GDL laws make the grade
- IIHS (May '09): 31 states/DC “good,” 12 “fair”, 7 “marginal,” no states “poor”

Key Components

According to IIHS:

- 6 month learner's permit
- minimum age 16
- 30 practice hours
- one teen passenger limit
- curfew after 9 or 10 p.m.
- restrictions one year or until age 18

Cell Phone Bans

- 21 states, DC ban cell phone use by novices
- Point to high crash rates
- More likely to pass



Recent GDL Changes

Minnesota (1st six months of licensure):

- Curfew, midnight-5 a.m (exceptions – accompanied by licensed driver 25+; driving btwn home and employment, to/from school event no transport, for employment)
- Only 1 passenger <20 unless w/parent; 2nd 6 months – 3 passengers <20 (exception – passengers <20 in immediate family)
- Primary seat belt law, all positions (6/9/09)

Recent GDL Changes

Indiana (effective 7/1/09):

- Curfew 10 pm-5 am, first 180 days; Sun-Thu, 11 pm-5 am; Fri-Sat, 1-5 am until age 18
- No passengers first 180 days unless accompanied by a licensed instructor or 25 yr old (exceptions – sibling, dependent, spouse a/o dependent)
- Electronic device ban for <18 yr olds

Recent GDL Changes

Indiana (effective 7/1/10):

- Permit at 15 yrs, 6 mos w/DE; 16 w/o DE, minimum 6 mos
- 50 hours supervised practice driving (10 @ night)
- Provisional at 16 yrs, 6 mos w/DE; 16 yrs, 9 mos w/o DE
- Amended diversion/deferral statute

Recent GLD Changes

Oregon (effective 09):

- Secondary hands-free/hand-held cell/texting ban, amended to primary

Recent GDL Changes

New York (effective 1/01/10):

- Eliminates “limited use” junior license
- Supervised driving increased to 50 hrs (15 @ night)
- Only one passenger <21 (non-family member)
- Portable electronic device ban (secondary)
- GDL sanctions apply if adult license obtained before adjudication of ticket

Recent GDL Changes

New Jersey (effective 5/01/10):

- Kyleigh's Law – GDL holders <21 display decal
- Curfew 11 pm-5 am for provisional license holders
- One passenger, regardless of family affiliation, unless accompanied by parent
- Provisional license changed to probationary

Kyleigh's Law

- Enforcement tool
- Removable
- Highly reflectorized
- Permit & probationary holders
- Affixed to front/rear I-plate
- Minimal cost
- Distribution channels
- No grandfathering
- \$100 fine



STAND UP! Act

- HR. 1895 – Bishop (NY), Castle (DE), Van Hollen (MD)
- Minimum fed requirements for state GDL laws, adopt w/in 3 yrs
- Fed h-way construction funds w/held for non-compliant states

States must meet the following:

- Three licensing stages – permit, intermediate, full
- Age 16 earliest for permit
- Nighttime driving restrictions until 18
- Driving while communicating (text, cell) prohibited until 18
- Unrestricted license no earlier than 18
- Passengers restricted to no more than one non-family member <21 until 18

Act continued...

- Any other requirement adopted by DOT Sec (i.e., minimum duration, practice driving hours)
- Compliance in 1st 3 yrs, state eligible for incentive grants
- Three yrs for a state to comply, afterward sanctions imposed to encourage compliance

Policy, Training, Screening

- What's appropriate, what works, how do we know?
- What's happening in your state?
- What's on your mind?



For more information

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www.njsaferoads.com (Teen Driver Study
Commission Report)