



SR0749

LRB101 15081 MST 64186 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate recognize  
3 drowsy driving as a public health threat to the residents of  
4 Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death of  
6 young people in the U.S., taking the lives of at least 5,600  
7 teens each year, and sleep-related crashes are most common in  
8 young people, who tend to stay up late, sleep too little, and  
9 drive at night; and

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WHEREAS, The National Highway Traffic Safety  
11 Administration estimates that at least 100,000 police-reported  
12 crashes each year are the direct result of driver fatigue; and

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WHEREAS, Signs of drowsy driving include frequent yawning  
14 or being unable to keep your eyes open, daydreaming or having  
15 wandering and disconnected thoughts, not remembering driving,  
16 ending up too close to cars in front of you, catching yourself  
17 nodding off and having trouble keeping your head up, missing  
18 road signs or driving past your turn or exit, and driving into  
19 another lane of traffic or onto the rumble strip or shoulder of  
20 the road; and

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WHEREAS, Just like drugs or alcohol, sleep loss or fatigue

1 impairs driving skills such as hand-eye coordination, reaction  
2 time, vision, awareness of surroundings, decision making,  
3 judgment, and inhibition, which can be fatal when driving; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the National Sleep Foundation's  
5 Sleep in America poll, 60% of Americans have driven while  
6 feeling sleepy, and 37% admit to actually having fallen asleep  
7 at the wheel in the past year; and

8 WHEREAS, Countermeasures to prevent a fall-asleep crash  
9 while driving include driver awareness of warning signs of  
10 drowsy driving, driver decision to stop driving when warning  
11 signs of fatigue arise and find a safe place to take a 15-20  
12 minute nap and consume caffeine, driver decision to limit  
13 traveling long distances alone, and driver decision to let a  
14 passenger take over the driving; and

15 WHEREAS, Public awareness and education campaigns on  
16 drowsy driving and ways to avoid drowsy driving will reduce  
17 preventable deaths in Illinois; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare November  
20 3-10, 2019 as Drowsy Driving Prevention Week in the State of  
21 Illinois; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That all residents of Illinois are encouraged to  
2 become familiar with the signs of drowsy driving and take steps  
3 to avoid drowsy driving; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That the Illinois Secretary of State's office and  
5 the Illinois Department of Transportation are encouraged to  
6 promote safety on Illinois roads by publicizing resources by  
7 the National Sleep Foundation during Drowsy Driving Prevention  
8 Week 2019 on its website and other electronic platforms widely  
9 accessible to Illinois residents.