

Governor's Task Force on Teen Safe Driving

Subcommittee on Parent and Public Awareness

Minutes for February 15, 2008 meeting held at the Capitol Building, Room 410 from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Attendance:

Co-Chairs: Yvette Bello and Rose Marie Cipriano

Members present:

Sherry Chapman, Rob Willsey, Angie Byrne, Ray Gaulin, Susan Naide

Joe Cristalli and Stephanie Demchik-Pascual were on leave

Bill Seymour from DMV present

Channel 12 reporter and camera man present for the entire meeting

Review of minutes from February 8, 2008 meeting held in Newington, CT. This included a recap of long term proposals we accepted and rejected.

Accepted

#1: Provide for parents/guardians to be notified of moving violations by drivers under age 18.

#4: Mandate an education session for parents/guardians of new 16 to 17 year old learner's permit holders.

More specific language to be developed by Susan Naide for today's meeting.

#5: Create parent education programs on available technology to track teen drivers: global positioning systems; speed recorders; event data recorders; one-way cell phones (outgoing calls to 911 only, incoming only from parent/guardian); on-board breathalyzers; and seat belt ignition links.

More specific language to be developed by Sherry Chapman for today's meeting.

#6: Institute programs at high school parking lot exits to check for compliance with passenger restrictions and seat belt requirements.

More specific language to be developed by Yvette Bello for today's meeting.

Rejected:

#2: Require all teenage applicants for learner's permit to file with DMV signed "Parent-Teen Driving Contract" – using Connecticut Teen Partnership contract as model.

#3: Allow parents/guardians to initiate/obtain license suspensions or revocations for drivers under age 18.

#7: Require 16 and 17 year old drivers to prominently display an identifying windshield sticker when they are operating a vehicle (as required in England).

Presentations, discussion and consensus to the following three proposals:

#4. Susan Naide provided a copy of proposed language. There was lengthy discussion by the committee members regarding verbiage and the concept of a standardized driver's education program statewide. Ray Gaulin from DOT worked on new language which

would capture the numerous points highlighted by the committee members. He completed the proposal in about an hour. Committee members did some tweaking and Consensus was agreed to by all committee members.

The new language to be proposed to the full Task Force reads:

(content)

Develop a standardized, uniform, state of the art driver's education program, approved by the CT DMV and be instituted statewide. This program will be a required course of study for any junior operator (16-18 year old) prior to application.

(delivery)

- (A) Whereas this program include a schedule of evening and/or weekend sessions and that all students of public, private, parochial, independent, vocational schools, as well as home schooled students will have access based upon geographical residence.
- (B) Whereas a "Parent/Guardian Training" module be part of this training program.
- (C) Whereas parents of all license applicants be required to complete the "Parent Training" module. This includes home trained license applicants.
- (D) Whereas due diligence be applied to maintaining affordable and accessible training for licensed applicants and the parent/guardian training program. The cost should be approved by the CT DMV or appropriate governing agency.

#5. Sherry Chapman provided a copy of language change. The committee members discussed some additional language to this proposal. Consensus was agreed to by all committee members.

The new language to be proposed to the full Task Force is as follows:

Work with state agencies to find a way to raise awareness of the types of technology available to track teen drivers. Examples include but are not limited to: global positioning systems; speed recorders; event data recorders; one-way cell phones (outgoing calls to 911 only; incoming from parents/guardians) on-board breathalyzers; and seat belt ignition links.

#6. Yvette Bello shared language change for this long term proposal. The committee members discussed and tweaked this proposal. Consensus was agreed to by all the committee members.

The new language to be proposed to the full Task Force is as follows:

Encourage local high schools to work with local police to institute a standard signage program at/within high school parking lots. Standardized signage should encourage compliance with all laws including passenger restrictions, cell phone restrictions and seat belt requirements. The signage should include the Connecticut state seal.

The committee discussed the potential need to continue an Advisory Group after the Task Force ends.

Recommendations on how we deliver the information state wide included use of the following:

Internet; Public Service Announcements; Radio & TV commercials/ads; Billboards; Public Transit Bus panels; high school newspapers & in school media coverage; public service channels; DMV; groups out there with high school and hospital programs; sporting events; Teen media contests; brochures (placed in doctor offices, insurance companies, DMV, driving schools, police stations, libraries, etc.

“Bites” for quick recognition:

Learn to Live

Drive Smart

Drive to Stay Alive

Keep Your Keys

FREAC (Fast Response to Ending Adolescent Crashes)

ENOUGH – CT just got tough

The committee discussed having all material and data return to GLP (Graduated Licensing Provisions). Consider calling the Permit the Provisional Junior Operators. Members agreed that we would need to develop a new recommendation to address the terminology of GDL or GLP.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 7, 2008 from 1 – 3 pm in Wallingford.