

***WHY ARE INSURANCE
CARRIERS BEING
ALLOWED TO PROFIT
FROM YOUR
CONSTITUENTS'
INJURIES***



***BRING PA'S MINIMUM
AUTO LIMITS INTO THE
21ST CENTURY***



Pennsylvania's minimum auto insurance limits were established in 1974 and haven't been increased since. While other states have increased their limits several times, Pennsylvania now possesses the second lowest minimum limits in the country.

These unfairly low limits ensure that your constituents won't receive adequate compensation for injuries caused by negligent drivers possessing the minimum insurance.

OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, INSURANCE CARRIERS HAVE APPLIED FOR AND REPEATEDLY BEEN GRANTED RATE INCREASES BY THE INSURANCE COMMISSION. HOW CAN CARRIERS CONTINUOUSLY REQUEST (AND BE GRANTED) PERMISSION TO INCREASE AUTO INSURANCE RATES WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CLAIM THAT THEIR OPPOSITION TO INCREASING THE MINIMUM LIMITS IS ABOUT KEEPING RATES DOWN?

Why are Insurance Carriers being allowed to profit from your Constituents' Injuries

BRING PA'S MINIMUM AUTO LIMITS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

PATRICIA BOYLE



Patricia Boyle, a 69 year old, single woman, was struck by a car while crossing the street. She had head lacerations, bruising all over her body, and cracked ribs. She required inpatient care in the hospital and eventually a nursing home. Her medical bills were in excess of \$35,000.

The person who hit her, causing her the pain she suffers from still to this day, had the minimum amount of insurance – \$15,000. Obviously, \$15,000 was not enough to reimburse Medicare or her other costs. As a result of the nation's second lowest auto limit minimum, the taxpayers are on the hook for a portion of her care and her medical providers have not been fully compensated.

INCREASING THE MINIMUM INSURANCE LIMITS WON'T HEAL INJURIES OR BRING LOVED ONES BACK TO LIFE, BUT IT WILL AT LEAST HELP PAY MEDICAL BILLS. AFTER SUFFERING, WHY SHOULD VICTIMS OF TRAGEDY BE FURTHER BURDENED WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OF DEBT?

MEKHI FREEMAN

Mekhi Freeman, age 10, was riding his bicycle with his friends in the neighborhood. As he crossed the street, he was struck by a 2002 Cadillac Escalade. Mekhi was dragged through the intersection by the striking vehicle. He was taken to St. Christopher's Hospital where he later died. Medical bills in excess of \$136,000.00 were incurred. Mekhi Freeman was a bright, personable and intelligent child.

The vehicle in question was insured under a policy of insurance issued by the GEICO Indemnity Company. That policy provided \$15,000.00/\$30,000.00 in liability coverage, the minimum state limits. Despite owning a 2002 Cadillac Escalade, the vehicle owner chose to insure the vehicle at the minimum statutory limits. As a result, the Freeman family was limited to \$15,000.00 in recovery as a result of the tragic death of their son.

POLINA KADIYSKA

Polina Kadiyska, a young, beautiful, extraordinarily gifted Bulgarian ballerina traveled to Philadelphia in order to study on a scholarship at the Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet. She was a world-class ballerina with limitless potential. Polina was hit by a car while lawfully crossing Broad Street. She was thrown nearly 150 feet and died of the massive blunt force trauma.



Sadly, the striking vehicle only had a minimum limits insurance policy. Her medical bills were \$80,000. But for the generosity of Thomas Jefferson Hospital who waived their bill and her attorney who waived his entire fee, the family would have recovered anything for Polina's tragic death.

A comparative analysis on states that have increased their auto limits since 2007

State	Year change effective	Limit after change	Limit before change	premium year before change (NAIC)	premium year of change (NAIC)	premium year after change (NAIC)	UM before change (iii)	UM after change (iii)	Comments
Alabama	2009	25/50/25	20/40/10	\$794.76 (2008)	\$783.59 (2009)	783.19 (2010)	26% (2007)	19.6% (2012)	Decrease in average annual premium cost; decrease in UM
Illinois	2015	25/50/20	20/40/15	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1
Louisiana	2010	15/30/25	10/20/10	\$1271.24 (2009)	\$1294.89 (2010)	\$1281.55 (2011)	12.9 (2009)	13.9 (2012)	Decrease in average annual premium cost; increase in UM.
Maryland	2011	30/60/15	20/40/15	\$1041.79 (2010)	\$1048 (2011)	\$1056.71 (2012)	14.9 (2009)	12.2 (2012)	Increase in average annual premium cost (\$12.71); decrease in UM
Ohio	2013	25/50/25	12.5/25/7.5	\$713.25 (2012)	738.97 (2013)	Note 2	13.5 (2012)	Note 2	NAIC and III has not yet reported information for 2014.
Oregon	2009	25/50/20	25/50/10	\$809.95 (2008)	\$807.57 (2009)	\$807.20 (2010)	11 (2007)	9.0 (2012)	Decrease in average annual premium cost; decrease in UM.
South Carolina	2007	25/50/25	15/30/10	\$875.48 (2006)	\$878.52 (2007)	\$863.00 (2008)	10 (2004)	7.7 (2012)	Decrease in average annual premium cost; decrease in UM.
Texas	2011	30/60/25	25/50/25	\$1013.59 (2010)	\$1004.75 (2011)	\$1020.06 (2012)	14.9 (2009)	13.3 (2012)	Increase in average annual premium cost (\$15.31); decrease in UM
Utah	2009	25/65/15	25/50/15	\$807.07 (2008)	\$817.32 (2009)	817.84 (2010)	8.0 (2007)	5.8 (2012)	Increase in average annual premium cost (\$.52); decrease in UM

Note 1 Illinois increased their auto limits, effective 2015, from 20/40/15 to 25/50/20. As the law just became effective, there is no current data to report.

Note 2 NAIC's most recent report (2014) only included data through 2012 and thus was not available for use at the time of the publication of this chart.

Note 3 Wisconsin increased their auto limits in 2009 but in 2011 those limits were reduced back to the pre-2009 amount of 25/50/10.

State Auto Limits as of Jan. 2016

State	Min Limit
Florida	10/20/10
New Jersey	15/30/5
Pennsylvania	15/30/5
California	15/30/5
Arizona	15/30/10
Delaware	15/30/10
Nevada	15/30/10
Louisiana	15/30/25
Massachusetts	20/40/5
Connecticut	20/40/10
Hawaii	20/40/10
Michigan	20/40/10
Iowa	20/40/15
DC	25/50/10
Indiana	25/50/10 (a)
Kansas	25/50/10
Kentucky	25/50/10
Missouri	25/50/10
Montana	25/50/10 (b)
New Mexico	25/50/10
New York	25/50/10
Vermont	25/50/10
Washington	25/50/10
Wisconsin	25/50/10
Colorado	25/50/15
Idaho	25/50/15

State	Min Limit
Tennessee	25/50/15
Illinois	25/50/20
Oregon	25/50/20
Virginia	25/50/20
Wyoming	25/50/20
Alabama	25/50/25
Arkansas	25/50/25
Georgia	25/50/25
Mississippi	25/50/25
Nebraska	25/50/25
New Hampshire	25/50/25
North Dakota	25/50/25
Ohio	25/50/25
Oklahoma	25/50/25
Rhode Island	25/50/25
South Carolina	25/50/25
South Dakota	25/50/25
West Virginia	25/50/25 (c)
Utah	25/65/15
Minnesota	30/60/10
Maryland	30/60/15
North Carolina	30/60/25
Texas	30/60/25
Alaska	50/100/25
Maine	50/100/25

(a) Indiana increased their limits from 25/50/10 to 25/50/25, effective January 1, 2017.

(b) Montana increased their limits from 25/50/10 to 25/50/20, effective January 1, 2017.

(c) WV increased their limits from 20/40/10 to 25/50/25, effective January 1, 2016.

Why are Insurance Carriers being allowed to profit from your Constituents' Injuries

Statement of Patricia Boyle

My name is Patricia Boyle. I live at 1274 Sterling Street, second floor Philadelphia, Pa 19111. I am 69 years old, single and live alone. I do not own a car. I am retired from my job as a supervisory telephone operator for the Defenders Association in Philadelphia for 35 years.

On March the 22nd 2010, I was walking from my home intending to do some light grocery shopping when crossing 6300 Castor Avenue, I was struck by a Chrysler automobile knocking me to the ground. I lost consciousness and had very little recollection of the accident. I was taken by ambulance to Einstein hospital with head lacerations, severe bruises throughout my body including both legs and elbows, and cracked ribs. Ten stitches were required to close one of my head wounds near my right eye. And because of my cracked ribs, I had difficulty breathing. I am attaching photographs of what I looked like while I was in the hospital. I remained in the hospital as an inpatient for 4 days. After returning home from the hospital, I had home nursing care for an additional week and a half.

According to the doctors, I had sustained a significant concussion and a traumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage.

I continue to experience pain in various parts of my body and I have difficulty with house work and shopping, for example. I try not to go out of the house unless I absolutely have to because of my fear as well as my difficulty in walking around.

The medical bills that I incurred were well in excess of \$35,000. Medicare has paid approximately \$16,000.

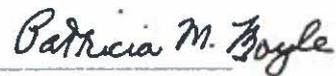
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I found out from my attorney that the person who hit me and who is responsible for causing me all this injury has the minimum required amount of insurance of \$15,000 which was not even enough to reimburse Medicare. This person has no assets and as far as we know, there was no reason to expect that he would ever have any. His insurance company offered to settle the case for his policy limits of \$15,000. I had no choice, but to accept the offer.

Fortunately, my attorney was able to negotiate with Medicare to accept a compromised amount of what it is that Medicare paid. Also, thanks to my attorney's generosity, he waived his attorney's fees so that I was able to receive at least a very modest amount for all the pain and suffering I have endured and will continue to endure.

I do not believe that it is fair that people are allowed to drive motor vehicles and are only required to have \$15,000 of insurance. This is not financial responsibility. I was victimized twice. First, because of what this person did to me and second because the amount of required insurance is so small.

Please do not let this type of tragedy occur to others and please change the law to require drivers to have more than just \$15,000 of insurance.



Patricia Boyle