### KATHARINE M. WATSON, MEMBER 144th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

**ROOM B-16 MAIN CAPITOL** PO BOX 202144 HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2144 PHONE: (717) 787-5452

**DISTRICT OFFICES:** 

1410 WEST STREET ROAD, SUITE B WARMINSTER, PA 18974 PHONE: (215) 674-0500

13 WEST CREAMERY ROAD P.O. BOX 166 HILLTOWN, PA 18927 PHONE: (215) 453-7888



# House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

# **MEMORANDUM**

#### COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON CARE & SERVICES **ETHICS HUMAN SERVICES INSURANCE** TRANSPORTATION REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN. SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

## CAUCUSES

ALZHEIMER'S **DIABETES** FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES

TO:

My Colleagues in the House

FROM:

forthy Water Representative Kathy Watson

DATE:

September 24, 2012

SUBJECT:

Co-sponsorship Resolution recognizing October 14 - 20, 2012 as "National

Teen Driver Safety Week in Pennsylvania"

Again it is time to get behind National Teen Driver Safety Week (NTDSW) from October 14 through October 20, 2012 which is dedicated to raising awareness and seeking solutions to unnecessary teen deaths on the road. Let us come together and focus Pennsylvania's attention once again on this serious issue.

The theme for this year is SHARE, NOT SCARE. This theme is based on a body of research that suggests the best way to change behavior over time is through positive messaging. This includes encouraging teens, parents, stakeholders, educators, and policymakers to talk about positive behaviors such as always wearing a seat belt and being a good passenger instead of what teens should NOT be doing.

According to research done by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and State Farm Insurance Companies, progress is being made in reducing teen driver-related crashes since 2005. However, motor vehicle crashes killed nearly five times as many teens as cancer or poisoning and it remains the leading causes of death for 15 – 19-year-olds in the United States for 2009.

In 2010 nationally, nearly 4585 drivers between 15 and 20 years old were involved in fatal traffic crashes. All were young people loved by their families - good kids full of dreams and hopes for long, meaningful lives. We all know of too many teen crashes resulting in death that have occurred in our own legislative districts.

Through this resolution we can recognize "National Teen Driver Safety Week" and encourage the people of Pennsylvania to SHARE, NOT SCARE and engage and empower licensed teen drivers in the Commonwealth.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this resolution. If you wish to do so, please contact my secretary, Meredith Schuler in my Harrisburg office at mschuler@pahousegop.com or 787-5452.