

Resolution for Support of North Carolina's Strengthening of the Current Ignition Interlock Law

WHEREAS, in 2018, there were 313,614 reported motor vehicle crashes on North Carolina's highways that resulted in 1,436 persons killed and 125,365 persons injured;

WHEREAS, in 2018, alcohol related crashes accounted for 3.8% of all reported crashes in North Carolina, but alcohol related fatalities made up 28.1% of all persons killed;

WHEREAS, in 2018, in alcohol related crashes involving drunk drivers that survived the collisions in North Carolina, 28.2% of the other persons involved in the crashes were killed as a result of the drunk driver's negligence;

WHEREAS, based on representative telephone survey data collected through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2.8% of North Carolina adults reported driving after drinking too much (in the past 30 days) (1);

WHEREAS, based on National statistics, an average drunk driver has driven drunk over 80 times before their first arrest (2);

WHEREAS, to strengthen alcohol ignition interlock programs, States should consider requiring ignition interlocks for all individuals convicted of or having their driving privileges suspended for alcohol-impaired driving including first time offenders as a condition of license reinstatement (3);

WHEREAS, strengthening North Carolina's current ignition interlock laws is consistent with the mission of the Executive Committee for Highway Safety; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Executive Committee for Highway Safety supports revising North Carolina General Statutes §20-17.8 (b) and §20-179.3 (g5) to include mandating ignition interlocks for **all** (including first time) alcohol-impaired driving offenders.

APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY
March 4, 2019

- (1) North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2016. Available from <https://schs.dph.ncdhhs.gov/data/brfss/2016/nc/all/DRNKDRI2.html>
- (2) Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Statistics. Available from <https://www.madd.org/statistics/>
- (3) U.S. Department of Transportation. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. *Model Guideline for State Ignition Interlock Programs*. DOT HS 811 859. November 2013.

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