

To: The Connecticut Legislature Transportation Committee

From: Stephen R. Merlino  
Principal  
Windham High School

Re: IN SUPPORT of S.B. 720, AN ACT CREATING PENALTIES FOR CAUSING HARM TO, OR THE DEATH OF, A VULNERABLE USER OF A PUBLIC WAY.

As the principal of an urban high school I would like to express my support of SB 720, regarding vulnerable users and driver's education.

Many of my students walk to school. On days like today, when sidewalks are not shoveled and students are literally forced into the streets, I am particularly sensitive to the dangers to pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable users.

I believe that it is more than reasonable that people who commit motor vehicle offenses causing injury or death be required (without regard for other sanctions) to be re-educated in the skills and rules of driving.

The lives of my students and neighbors depend upon safe driving.

Sincerely,  
*Stephen R. Merlino*  
Principal  
Windham High School