



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



### *Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles*

*Commissioner Melody A. Currey*

*Transportation Committee Public Hearing*

*February 20, 2013*

### **SB 104 – AN ACT ALLOWING NEWLY LICENSED MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS TO TRANSPORT IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS TO AND FROM SCHOOL**

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 104, AN ACT ALLOWING NEWLY LICENSED MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS TO TRANSPORT IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

The Department of Motor Vehicles has concerns about this proposed legislation. The bill would enable any holder of a motor vehicle operator's license who is sixteen or seventeen years of age to transport immediate family members to and from school upon obtaining a license. Currently, these teens must wait for a period of six months before they are able to transport siblings in their vehicles.

As many of you are aware, the General Assembly significantly strengthened Connecticut's teen driver laws in an effort to help keep Connecticut's teen drivers safe and to try to reduce the number of teen deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents. Connecticut's laws are some of the toughest in the nation and over the past few years have helped to reduce teen deaths arising from motor vehicle accidents.

While the DMV believes that Connecticut's existing teen driver laws should not be altered, there will be several advocates who work with DMV on these issues, including the DMV Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Teen Safe Driving, who will speak for more eloquently on these issues as to why this proposal may not be appropriate.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this legislation.