



## GOVERNOR

## TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK

2017

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among the 15 to 19-year-old age group in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, there were 87 fatal crashes and 10,460 injury crashes in North Carolina that involved teens ages 15 to 19 as drivers or passengers; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, 42 teens killed in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina were not wearing seatbelts; another 51 teens were killed in speed-related crashes; and

WHEREAS, this year to date, 48 teens have lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, teens whose parents impose driving restrictions are less likely to engage in unsafe driving, and are involved in fewer crashes; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is committed to teen driver safety; our Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) system minimizes risks by preparing novices to learn to drive, requiring teen drivers to log practice hours under the supervision of a parent or eligible licensed driver, and limiting the number of passengers allowed in the vehicle with a new driver; and

WHEREAS, death and injury can be prevented by reminding teens to stay safe behind the wheel, and to follow the 5 to Drive Rule: no cell phones while driving, no extra passengers, no speeding, no alcohol, and no driving or riding without a seat belt; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages all parents, guardians, and caregivers to take the time to talk with their teen drivers about the many dangers of driving;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 15 – 21, 2017, as "TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.