

ANGELO J. PUPPOLO, JR. STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Massachusetts House of Representatives
Resolutions

RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 2022 AS NATIONAL PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK.

WHEREAS, EVERYONE HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN INCREASING ROAD SAFETY; AND

WHEREAS, PASSENGER DEATHS ACCOUNTED FOR 25 PERCENT OF ALL TRAFFIC FATALITIES NATIONWIDE IN 2019, TRAFFIC DEATHS INCREASED SEVEN PERCENT IN 2020, AND 18 PERCENT IN 2021 ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S (NHTSA) PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES AND PASSENGER VEHICLE OCCUPANT DEATHS ROSE FIVE PERCENT IN 2020; AND

WHEREAS, THESE HISTORIC INCREASES IN TRAFFIC DEATHS OCCURRED AS THERE WAS A 13 PERCENT DECREASE IN VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED AND NHTSA'S DATA SHOWS THE MAIN BEHAVIORS DRIVING THIS INCREASE WERE SPEEDING, IMPAIRED DRIVING AND FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS; AND

WHEREAS, WHETHER A DRIVER IS IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL OR DRUGS, IS SPEEDING, DRIVING TOO AGGRESSIVELY, DRIVING DISTRACTED OR CAN'T STAY AWAKE AT THE WHEEL, BAD DRIVING CHOICES PUT PASSENGERS AT RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH AND MANY OF THOSE LIVES MIGHT HAVE BEEN SAVED HAD A PASSENGER IN THE CAR INSISTED THAT THE DRIVER SLOW DOWN, STOP TEXTING, OR NOT GET BEHIND THE WHEEL IN THE FIRST PLACE; AND

WHEREAS, PASSENGERS - ESPECIALLY TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS - NEED EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO EMPOWER THEM TO SAVE LIVES BY CALLING OUT UNSAFE DRIVING IN THE CAR AS IT HAPPENS AND PARENTS ALSO NEED EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO TEACH THEIR CHILDREN ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SPEAKING UP OR NOT GETTING IN THE CAR WITH SOMEONE WHO IS DRUNK, DRUGGED OR DISTRACTED; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HEREBY RECOGNIZES THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23-29, 2022 AS NATIONAL PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK WHEN PASSENGERS IN MOTOR VEHICLES SHOULD BE EDUCATED AND ENCOURAGED TO ADVOCATE FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS DURING THIS WEEK, AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE FORWARDED BY THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADOPTED, JANUARY 24, 2022.

RONALD MARIANO SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

CLERK OF THE HOUSE

OFFERED BY:

REPRESENTATIVE ANGELO J. PUPPOLO, JR.