

WHEREAS: Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of teen deaths in the United States and many of those deaths are preventable; and

WHEARAS: Oregon drivers aged 15-20 were involved in fatal and injury crashes at over three times the rate for all fatal and serious injury crashes in 2021, making up 14.5% of total drivers involved in fatal and injury crashes; and

WHEREAS: 528 people were killed, and 59,978 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving teen drivers, ages 15-20 in the state of Oregon since 2010; and

WHEREAS: The destruction of lives and personal property can be drastically reduced through a combination of effective laws, parent involvement, quality driver education, and changes in societal attitudes toward impaired driving, increased seat belt use, and reduced distraction, including cell phone use; and

WHEREAS: Working together toward common goals of reducing the incidence of teen driver crashes, and the over-representation of teen drivers in fatal and injury crashes, will result in fewer fatal and serious injury highway crashes, and we will enjoy a safer roadway system.

NOW,

THEREFORE: We, the Oregon Transportation Commission, hereby declare **October 15-21, 2023** to be

Teen Driver Safety Week

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.