

By: Kolkhorst

H.R. No. 216

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Teens in the Driver Seat program of the Texas
2 Transportation Institute has helped significantly to raise
3 awareness and save lives in the State of Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death
5 for young people, with some 5,000 teenagers nationwide and nearly
6 500 in Texas lost annually; in addition, for every teenager killed
7 in an automobile accident, 50 more are seriously injured, making
8 teen-driver crashes one of the most urgent safety and public health
9 crises now facing our state and nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Experts believe that to change this situation
11 substantially, it is essential that young people themselves play a
12 more active and productive role in improving roadway safety; and

13 WHEREAS, A growing number of Texas teenagers have dedicated
14 themselves to this important safety mission through their
15 involvement in the Teens in the Driver Seat program, created by the
16 Texas Transportation Institute and sponsored by the Texas
17 Department of Transportation and State Farm Insurance; Teens in the
18 Driver Seat has now been introduced in more than 400 Texas schools;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Since the inception of this program, the number of
21 teens killed in crashes involving teen drivers in Texas has dropped
22 32 percent, a decline that is more than twice the national average;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Teens in the Driver Seat has vividly demonstrated

1 its effectiveness and lifesaving potential, and its many leaders
2 and participants are making a vital contribution to their schools,
3 their communities, and the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
5 Legislature hereby recognize the Teens in the Driver Seat program
6 for its effectiveness in reducing the number of teenage-driver
7 automobile accidents and extend to all those associated with the
8 program sincere best wishes for continued success with their
9 crucial endeavors.