

Written Testimony of John Palmer, Minnesota Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association
Friday, April 1, 2022

Message of Support for the Creation of a Traffic Safety Advisory Council (TSAC)

The Minnesota Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (MDTSEA) is holding our 55th annual conference April 1 and 2. Our Board of Directors discussed the initiative to form a TSAC at the pre-conference Board meeting. MDTSEA's constitution describes the purpose of the organization in Article III Section 2 which reads:

The general objectives of this organization are to:

- (a) Provide opportunities for professional growth
- (b) Promote desirable public relations
- (c) Act as informational resource on Driver and Traffic Safety Education
- (d) Cooperate with public officials in promotion of desirable safety legislation
- (e) Encourage improvement in Driver Education and Traffic Safety activities within the state
- (f) Support the improvement and upgrading of standards in teaching preparation and certification
- (g) Sponsor, promote and publish needed research related to Driver and Traffic Safety Education
- (h) Maintain professional ethics and standards

The Board of Directors believes a broadly based TSAC is a desirable addition to state government for the improvement of traffic safety in Minnesota. The mission of the proposed TSAC is most appropriate but the proposed make up of the TSAC lacks an important voice of the driver and traffic safety education community. From the earliest days of our nation's traffic safety initiatives the Three Es (Education, Enforcement and Engineering) have been included as essential elements to improving the safety of our Highway Transportation System. In the late twentieth century a fourth E (Emergency Medical Services) was added to the essential elements of improvement in traffic safety. MDTSEA believes the best way to include the element of Education in the TSAC is to include a Traffic Safety Educator on the council. Please amend the membership list of the TSAC to include one representative from MDTSEA and then recommend the creation of the Traffic Safety Advisory Council.

jwp

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