



**Date:** 03/09/2021

**To:** Honorable Lena Gonzales, Chair  
Honorable Patricia Bates, Vice Chair  
Members, Senate Transportation Committee

**From:** Rex D. Frazier, President  
Seren Taylor, Senior Legislative Advocate  
Deanna LaTour-Jarquin, Legislative Advocate

**Re:** SB 571 (Newman) Driver's licenses: instruction permits and provisional licenses.

**PIFC Position: Support**

The Personal Insurance Federation of California (PIFC) is a statewide trade association that represents seven of the nation's largest property and casualty insurance companies (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Mercury, Nationwide, Allstate and as well as associate members CONNECT by American Family, NAMIC, and Chubb) who collectively write a majority of personal lines auto and home insurance in California.

PIFC is pleased to support SB 571. PIFC has a long history of supporting legislation that serves to prevent injuries and enhance public safety, especially when it comes to teenage drivers. We have an established interest in reducing auto accidents for teen drivers because they have the highest crash rate of any group of drivers in the U.S. and are four times more likely to be involved in a crash than adult drivers. SB 571 would expand the state's graduated driver's license program (GDL) to all new drivers under age 21.

Studies by the National Safety Council and National Highway Traffic Safety Institute show that California could save more lives – as well as savings from reduced traffic incident related costs – by enacting this change in law. The provisions of SB 571 will allow all teen aged youth to drive, but require all teen aged youth to go through the GDL program. This will make California's roadways safer for everyone. PIFC believes implementation of the reforms contained in SB 571 could help to save lives and reduce the cost impact of teen-related automobile accidents.

This GDL age change is supported by a wide array of national and state traffic safety, law enforcement, public health, children and youth, advocacy groups, hospital and trauma centers, insurance companies, and most importantly hundreds of affected families who have lost a daughter or son due to a teen driver involved crash. SB 571 will literally save not only hundreds of young people's lives each year, but also make our roadways safer for everyone else.

For this reason, PIFC supports SB 571. If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Deanna LaTour-Jarquin at (925) 395-8802.

cc: Senator Josh Newman, Author  
Randy Chinn, Chief Consultant, Senate Transportation Committee  
Ted Morley, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Jessica Devencenzi, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Michael Martinez, Senior Deputy Commissioner and Legislative Director, California Department of Insurance

Members:

STATE FARM

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PROGRESSIVE

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Associate Members:

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