

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING S.B. NO. 151, SECTION 10 RESTRICTING POSSESSION OF OPEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTAINERS IN MOTOR VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Legislature's Transportation Committee has introduced, S.B. No. 151, An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Department of Transportation, which includes Section 10, that states "No person shall possess an open alcoholic beverage container within the passenger area of a motor vehicle while such motor vehicle is on any highway in the state", and

WHEREAS, the CRCOG Policy Board has previously adopted Resolutions supporting the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) targets for five safety performance measures, which includes reducing the number of fatalities, and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported in 2017 that 29% of all transportation fatalities nationwide were classified as alcohol impaired, and 42% of all Connecticut transportation fatalities were classified as alcohol impaired, representing the highest percentage of any state, and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported in 2018 that 29% of all transportation fatalities nationwide were classified as alcohol impaired, and 39% of all Connecticut transportation fatalities were classified as alcohol impaired, representing the state with the third highest percentage only behind Montana with 43%, and Texas with 40%, and

WHEREAS, the Governors Highway Safety Association tracks open container laws as one of several important alcohol-impaired driving laws and the 42 states have adopted such a law, and

WHEREAS, the CRCOG wishes to maintain and enhance its focus on transportation safety in the region,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CRCOG Policy Board has agreed to support CTDOT's recommendation in Section 10 of S.B. No. 151, making possession of open alcoholic beverage containers within the passenger areas of motor vehicles illegal.

CERTIFICATE: The undersigned duly qualified CRCOG Board Member certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the voting members of the CRCOG Policy Board on March 25, 2020.

Lori L. Spielman, Secretary
Capitol Region Council of Governments

Date