

# Impaired Driving Work Session

Senate Transportation Committee

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# AAA/MADD Partnership

- Shared mission and complimentary strengths
- Reset the trend
- Reduce impaired driving fatalities nationwide by 20% by 2030 (2500 lives)
- Top contributor to fatal crashes
- Strong public support
- Proven solutions exist
- Availability of good data



# Countermeasures








POLICY	STATUS NATIONALLY
<p>All-offender ignition interlock requirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nationwide implementation would save 764 lives and \$10 billion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 states + DC have an all-offender law that requires offenders to install an ignition interlock device to drive or return to an unrestricted license.</li> <li>• 22 states have a law that doesn't fully meet the recommendation.</li> <li>• 16 states don't have a law.</li> </ul>
<p>Permit sobriety checkpoints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nationwide implementation would save 303 lives and \$4 billion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 37 states + DC permit and utilize sobriety checkpoints.</li> <li>• 1 state permits sobriety checkpoints but prohibits the use of federal funds to support them.</li> <li>• 12 states do not permit sobriety checkpoints.</li> </ul>
<p>0.05 BAC per se law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nationwide implementation would save 1,363 lives and \$18 billion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 state has a 0.05 per se law for impairment.</li> <li>• 49 states + DC do not have a 0.05 law.</li> </ul>
<p>Alcohol open container law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nationwide implementation would save 143 lives and \$1.9 billion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 states + DC have an open container law for alcohol that meets federal recommendations (23 USC § 154).</li> <li>• 9 states have an open container law that does not meet federal recommendations.</li> <li>• 1 state does not have an open container law for alcohol.</li> </ul>
<p>Oral fluid testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 states authorize the collection of oral fluid and have implemented a statewide roadside testing program to detect drugs for impaired driving investigations.</li> <li>• 16 states authorize the collection of oral fluid but have not implemented a statewide roadside testing program.</li> <li>• 25 states + DC do not authorize the collection of oral fluid.</li> </ul>
<p>Electronic warrants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 47 states + DC authorize electronic warrants as a tool to expedite the collection of evidence of impaired driving when a warrant is required.</li> <li>• 3 states do not authorize electronic warrants.</li> </ul>
<p>Law enforcement phlebotomy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 states allow LEO and other qualified personnel to draw blood for investigative purposes, provided that such programs preserve due process and follow best practices.</li> <li>• 28 states + DC do not allow such blood draws.</li> </ul>

# Other Nationwide Recommendations

- Improve drug-impaired data
- Support drug evaluation and classification programs
- Address under-resourced toxicology laboratories



# Washington: Impaired Driving Policies and Practices

Policy Approach	Meets Recommendations	Opportunities	Potential Benefits
All-Offender Ignition Interlock Device Requirement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See 1/26 JLARC Report</li> </ul>	
Sobriety Checkpoints		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit and regularly utilize sobriety checkpoints that meet or exceed the legal standards.</li> </ul>	<b>Possible Lives Saved: 26</b> <b>Economic Impact: \$343,200,000</b>
0.05 BAC Per Se Limit		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower the per se limit for impairment to 0.05 BAC.</li> </ul>	<b>Possible Lives Saved: 32</b> <b>Economic Impact: \$422,400,000</b>
Alcohol Open Container Law			
Oral Fluid Testing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit and utilize the collection of oral fluid to detect drugs for impaired-driving investigations.</li> </ul>	<b>Ability to rapidly detect recent drug and multi-substance drug use.</b>
Electronic Warrants			
Law Enforcement Phlebotomy			

# LIVES SAVED AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

## Washington-Specific

- Lowering the BAC to 0.05
  - 32 lives
  - \$422 million
- Implementing sobriety checkpoints
  - 26 lives
  - \$343 million



# International Adoption

- Most countries have adopted BAC limits between 0.00 and 0.05
  - Norway was the first to adopt 0.05 in 1936
  - 150 Countries/Territories
  - ~6.5 billion people
- North American States/Provinces
  - Mexican states: Aguascalientes, Chihuahua, Chiapas, Ciudad de México D.F., Estado de México, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Michoacán, Tamaulipas, Veracruz
  - Canadian provinces: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan
  - USA: Utah
  - Population total: ~95.5 million

# International Experience

- Average of 11% decrease in alcohol-related traffic fatalities
- Average 5% decrease in serious injury crashes
- No significant increase in arrests
- No significant impact on alcohol consumption or the hospitality industry
- More people avoid driving after drinking by using sober drivers, transit, rideshares, taxis, etc.

# State and National Public Opinion

- WTSC/AAA WA Survey
  - Without additional information, 54% support lowering the BAC to .05.
  - With additional information, the support increases to 71%.
  - 23% of those surveyed do not believe they can be impaired below .08.
- AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's Traffic Safety Culture Index
  - Drunk driving is dangerous (93%) and socially unacceptable (96%).
  - 7% of those surveyed said they did it in the 30 days prior to the survey.
  - 51% support a reduction to .05 BAC.
  - 67% support requiring all new cars to have tech that prevents the car from starting if the driver is over the legal limit.

# Thank you

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