ALLAN EGOLF, MEMBER HARRISBURG OFFICE: HOUSE BOX 202020 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020 PHONE: (717) 783-1593 FAX: (717) 787-0860

> DISTRICT OFFICE: POST OFFICE BOX 759 18 WEST MAIN STREET NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA 17068 PHONE: (717) 582-8119 1-800-959-8119 FAX: (717) 787-7103



House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

May 15, 1996

#### COMMITTEES

VETERANS' AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MAJORITY VICE CHAIRMAN EDUCATION AGING & YOUTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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APPOINTMENTS:

VIETNAM VETERANS' HEALTH INITIATIVE COMMISSION PA INTERSTATE COMPACT COMMISSION FOR EDUCATION CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TASK FORCE

William P. Poe, DUI Unit Director Franklin County Probation Department County Administration Building 191 Franklin Farm Lane Chambersburg, PA 17201

Dear Mr. Poe:

Thank you for your recent letter encouraging me to support House Bill 1263, enacting Administrative License Suspension and House Bill 2269, lowering blood alcohol levels in relation to driving under the influence.

Please be advised that as a prime sponsor of House Bill 2269 and a co-sponsor of House Bill 1263, I will support both pieces of legislation when they come before the House of Representatives for a vote.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you on other state-related matters in the future.

Sincerely,

Allan Egolf

State Representative 86th Legislative District

AE/tcr

### COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE 39TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA FRANKLIN COUNTY BRANCH

William H. Kaye, Judge Douglas W. Herman, Judge

991 9 0 YAM



John R. Walker, President Judge

**Adult Probation** (717) 264-6613

**Payment Division** (717) 264-8680

FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT **County Administration Building 191 Franklin Farm Lane** Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201 FAX: (717) 264-8934 Telecommunication Device for Deaf (717) 264-8474

**Impaired Drivers Program DUI UNIT** (717) 267-1662

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May 08, 1996

The Honorable C. Allen Egolf P.O. Box 759 New Bloomfield, PA 17068

Dear Mr. Egolf:

The Franklin County Probation Department DUI Unit would like to take this opportunity to respectfully urge your support in the passage of House Bill No. 1263 enacting Administrative License Suspension and House Bill No. 2269 lowering the per se blood alcohol level to .08% and enacting "Zero Tolerance" for under twenty-one year old drivers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

William P. Poe **DUI Unit Director** 

Veronica S. Bowers, Probation Officer/DUI Specialist Jessica I. Fleck, Probation Officer/DUI Specialist David P. Mullen, Parole Officer/DUI Specialist Kevin R. Zook, Parole Officer/DUI Specialist Thomas K. McCubbin, Investigator/DUI Specialist Bonnie K. Zeis, Administrative Assistant Anita M. Zimmerman, Administrative Assistant

ALGERT H. MASLAND, MEMBER HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 202020 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING HARRISBURG. PA 17120-2020 PHONE. (717) 772-2280

> DISTRICT OFFICE: 27 N. HANOVER STREET CARLISLE, PA 17013-3014 PHONE: (717) 249-1990



House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

February 26, 1996

COMMITTEES

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY JUDICIARY LABOR RELATIONS LOCAL GOVERNMENT MAJORITY POLICY

PA COMMISSION ON CRIME & DELINQUENCY PA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN LOCAL TAX REFORM CAUCUS SUBSTANCE ABUSE CAUCUS



Scott Fisher Opinion Page Editor THE YORK DISPATCH 25 N. George Street York, PA 17401

Dear Scott:

Enclosed please find my response to the earlier op-ed piece.

Thank you for your consideration. If it is too long, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Albert H. Masland

AHM/js

Enclosure

### **DUI PROPOSAL NOT EXTREME**

A recent column by a defense attorney bemoaned the prospective passage of legislation I have introduced to amend our laws dealing with driving under the influence. As a former Assistant District Attorney, this is not the first time I've locked horns with defense attorneys. In fact, having one label my proposal as extreme and unreasonable is almost an endorsement.

Let me briefly explain the main thrust of the bill and why it not only is reasonable but also is necessary to make our streets safer. You be the judge in this battle between the prosecution and the defense.

Under current law, anyone whose blood alcohol content (BAC) registers .10 percent or higher is guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol. My proposal would change this level to .08 percent. It's a simple change, but nonetheless necessary. Here's why.

Mr. Defense Attorney wants you to believe my proposal's goal is to "make it much easier ... to convict an innocent person." That specious claim could not be further from the truth. The purpose is not to arrest more individuals, but to arrest the attention of the public to the fact that impairment begins long before an individual hits the current .10 percent level.

Numerous studies have demonstrated a significant increase in the likelihood of a person being involved in an accident when their BAC is as low as .05 percent. When your BAC reaches .08 percent, there is a dramatic increase; your likelihood of being in an accident at that level doubles compared to someone who has not been drinking. By the time your BAC reaches .10 percent, you are 12 times more likely to be involved in an accident! Do we want to wait until someone is grossly impaired? I suggest we do not.

Any toxicologist or coroner will detail the impact of even small amounts of alcohol in a person's bloodstream. Alcohol levels as low as .02 percent affect vision, coordination, attention and comprehension. More importantly, judgment always goes first.

Page 2

Currently, 13 states have lowered their BAC to .08 percent. An extensive study of a handful of those states determined that merely lowering the legal BAC resulted in a statistically significant decrease in the number of fatal accidents. Also, arrest rates have gone down because people realize it is not safe to drive at lower levels. The driving force behind any DUI legislation should be to reduce the carnage on our highways. My bill will do that.

Although I personally do not believe it is necessary or helpful to compare our laws with those of other nations, it must be noted that .10 percent is the highest legal level of any industrialized nation. Many other countries set limits at .08 percent and below.

To some people that may sound like a small amount of alcohol, but the fact is that a 170-lb. person would have to drink four beers on an empty stomach in one hour to reach a BAC of .08 percent. Would you want someone who just pounded four drinks in an hour on an empty stomach to hop behind the wheel of a car? I don't. Even more important, is someone who would do that an "innocent" person? You be the judge.

Albert H. Masland State Representative 199th Legislative District

DEC 27 1995

# PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION

600 North Third Street • P.O. Box 2865 • Harrisburg, PA 17105-2865 • (717) 238-7192 FAX (717) 238-6574

December 19, 1995

Honorable Allan C. Egolf PA House of Representatives Room 164A East Wing Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020

Dear Representative Egolf:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Pennsylvania AAA Federation, which is an organization comprising all the American Automobile Association (AAA) clubs in Pennsylvania. These clubs represent 2.6 million member motorists in the Commonwealth.

We appreciate and support your efforts to improve traffic safety in the Commonwealth with your introduction of House Bill 2269. The American Automobile Association has long supported the enactment and vigorous enforcement of laws against driving under the influence.

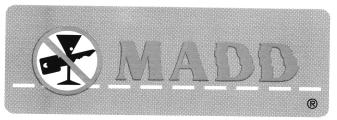
Consistent with that objective, we heartily support and endorse your legislation reducing the blood alcohol content to .08%, and enactment of "zero tolerance", or .02% BAC for minors. We believe these are effective steps to reducing the number of motorist alcohol-related deaths and injuries, particularly among young drivers. Young drivers account for a disproportionate number of traffic accidents, and many of these are alcohol-related.

If we can be of any assistance in passing this highly effective highway safety measure, please do not hesitate to contact me, or our lobbyist, Dick Gmerek at 234-8525.

Sincerely, onverd

Ted Leonard General Manager

cc: Senate Transportation Committee Chairman Senate Transportation Committee Minority Chairman House Transportation Committee Chairman House Transportation Committee Minority Chairman



## Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Olde Liberty Square • 4815 Jonestown Road, #301 • Harrisburg, PA 17109 • (717) 540-4821 • FAX: 540-4821 (8-12 noon) TRI-COUNTY CHAPTER

January 4, 1996

The Hononable Allan Egolf P.O. Box 759 18 W. Main Street New Bloomsfield, PA 17068

Dean Representative Egolf:

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is an organization dedicated to eliminating drunk drivers from our highways. Although education and public awareness are important in our efforts, our principal tool is legislation. Without staunch allies in the legislature, little could be accomplished. There are many that will vote "Yes" on an issue when it comes to the floor, but there are only a few that work vigorously to get bills filed through the proper committees and onto the floor.

The many members of MADD, and indeed, the citizens of Pennsylvania, are deeply indebted to you for your outstanding efforts to make our highways safer.

MADD supports setting the legal Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) limits for drivers at .08 per se.

From its inception, MADD has been concerned about the vulnerability of young people to the hazands and consequences of alcohol and other drug-impaired driving. Inexperienced at both drinking and driving, young people are at increased risk when they combine the two activities. Research indicates in the past that young drivers are disproportionately involved in traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities involving alcohol or other drugs.

MADD believes that the solution to the problem lies in efforts on many fronts: education and prevention programs, to inform youth of the dangers of impairment; intervention, to redirect youth who have become involved in substance use; sanctions, for those who commit alcohol and other drug offenses; and limits on advertising and marketing strategies which blatantly target those under the legal drinking age.

## The Honorable Allan Egolf

-2-

January 4, 1996

MADD therefore advocates that it be illegal for those under 21 to drive with any measurable level of blood alcohol but MADD will support .02 BAC.

We thank you sincerely and look forward to working with you. The important work is in getting it filed, through committees and onto the floor for that final vote.

Yours truly,

Helga A. Rjhhan Helga M. Azizkhan President

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Executive Director

cc - Representative	e Ronald I. Buxton
"	Ronald R. Cowell
	Jeffney W. Coy Ronald S. Mansico
//	Ronald S. Marsico
//	Albert Masland
//	Jenny L. Nailon
//	Bruce Smith
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//	Frank Tulli, Jr.
"	Patricia H. Vance
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Senator Daniel	S. Delp
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Auto-Life-Health-Home and Business 414 PENN AVE WEST READING, PA 19611 OFF 374-3115, H (610)678-8571) F 374-3109

December 22, 1995

REPRESENTATIVE ALLAN EGOLF 18 WEST MAIN STREET PO BOX 759 NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA 17068

Dear Representative Egolf,

Enclosed please find a copy of the article I read in the newspaper regarding the legal limit on drinking. I would like to express my sincere support on this issue. I am an Insurance Agent for State Farm Insurance for the past 35 years and have been a strong supporter of "Choose to Stay Alive -Don't Drink and Drive." I also go to the local High Schools and teach in the driver's training classes, I have been doing this for 8 years and all of my advertising involves "Choose to Stay Alive - Don't Drink and Drive."

If there is anything I can do to support this issue, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

STATE FARM

INSURANCE

Jerry Rapp Jr. 414 Penn Ave. West Reading, Pa. 19611 (610) 374-3115