



## ***SUPPORT SAFE DRIVING: Driver's Licenses for ALL Connecticut Motorists***

Connecticut law conditions eligibility for a driver's license on federal immigration status. This prevents **54,000 Connecticut immigrants** from getting licenses—even though they need to drive to support their families. These unlicensed, uninsured drivers increase insurance premiums in Connecticut by **\$20 million** each year. Nationwide, unlicensed motorists are **five times more likely** to be involved in a fatal crash than licensed drivers.

Providing a way for Connecticut immigrant motorists to obey driver's license laws will make everyone on our state's roads safer. These immigrant drivers will need to **be tested on their driving skills** and on the rules of the road, and **purchase insurance**.

### ***How Connecticut Benefits When All Motorists Get Licensed***

- Police will be able to **identify motorists during stops** and check their traffic records.
- Witnesses to crimes will be more comfortable **reporting crimes** to the police and cooperating in investigations once they have identification.
- Drivers will be more likely to **stay at the scene of an accident** to aid police and emergency workers and exchange insurance information with other motorists.
- Police will be unable to use “driving without a license” as a pretext for racial **profiling and harassment**. This is what led to the federal indictments in East Haven.
- Limited court time and jail space will not be wasted on drivers who are there solely for driving without a license or insurance.
- **Insurance rates will fall for everyone**. Connecticut policy holders will **save \$20 million** each year.
- The State will **earn two million dollars** in revenue per year from new registrations.
- Immigrants who can drive legally will be more likely to work, spend, and contribute to our economy.

### ***What Other States Are Doing***

**Washington and New Mexico** already require all immigrant motorists to get driver's licenses. Since New Mexico made this change in 2003, its rate of uninsured motorists fell from 33% to under 9%. New Mexico also saw a 32% decrease in alcohol-related crashes and a 23% drop in traffic fatalities. Both states also use strong procedures to verify identity and residence documents. **Illinois and Maryland have enacted similar legislation in recent months, and numerous other state legislatures are currently considering similar legislation.**

### ***Join the Safe Driving Coalition!***

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