



ADVOCATES
FOR HIGHWAY
& AUTO SAFETY

March 1, 2024

The Honorable Jeff Landry
Governor of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
900 North 3rd Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Dear Governor Landry:

Thank you for supporting Senate Bill (SB) 7 and making Louisiana roads safer by increasing the use of ignition interlock devices (IIDs) to curb impaired driving. SB 7 will mandate use of IIDs for all convicted drunk drivers and require the IID remain for the duration of suspension. It also increases the suspension length for a first offense from 90 days to six months. These upgrades are timely and necessary.

Drunk driving is a serious issue and a major contributor to traffic crashes. In 2021, 299 people died in drunk driving crashes in Louisiana – a 32 percent increase from 2020. Drunk driving accounted for nearly one third (31 percent) of the 972 traffic fatalities in Louisiana that year. Additionally, the Pelican State incurs nearly \$6.6 billion in annual economic harm due to motor vehicle crashes, which is equivalent to a “crash tax” of \$1,413 per resident each year according to a 2019 analysis. Improving IID use will save numerous lives, prevent injuries and curb related costs.

We greatly appreciate your leadership on this important traffic safety legislation. It will help protect Louisiana families and visitors to the state.

Sincerely,

Catherine Chase
President