

alPHa Resolution A06-1

TITLE: Highway Traffic Act

SPONSOR: Durham Regional Council

WHEREAS Ontario's *Highway Traffic Act* does not restrict the number of passengers who can ride in a motor vehicle such that it equals the number of available seatbelts; and

WHEREAS the Canada Safety Council advocates that motor vehicle regulations be amended to limit the number of passengers to the number of available seatbelts; and

WHEREAS in 2003, Transport Canada reported that failure to wear a seatbelt resulted in 37% of passengers being fatally injured and 20% being seriously injured; and

WHEREAS Transport Canada also reported that only 86% of all vehicle occupants wore seatbelts in contrast to Canada's National Road Safety Target for seatbelt use of 95% by 2010; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Transportation be urged to amend the *Highway Traffic Act* such that the number of passengers transported by a motor vehicle is restricted to equal the number of available seatbelts with the exception of those vehicles that are exempted according to the *Highway Traffic Act*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, and Health Promotion; Chief Medical Officer of Health be so advised.

MOTION: L. O'Connor (BOH, Durham)
SECOND: R. Manuel (BOH, Middlesex-London)
MOTION FOR AMENDMENT: V. Blackmore (BOH, Middlesex-London)
SECOND: C. Whiting (MOH, North Bay Parry Sound)

Resolution CARRIED as amended.

