

STANDARD SEAT BELT LEGISLATION

- WHEREAS, Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for Utahns from 6 to 28 years of age; and
- WHEREAS, 75% of Utah's motor vehicle occupant (MVO) fatalities were unrestrained; and
- WHEREAS, The vast majority of all fatal and non-fatal injuries overall, including traffic injuries, are not acts of fate, but are predictable and preventable; and
- WHEREAS, Inpatient hospital care costs for unbuckled crash victims are 50% higher than for those who are buckled; and
- WHEREAS, Wearing seat belts correctly is the quickest, easiest, and most effective way to prevent motor vehicle occupant traffic injuries and fatalities; and
- WHEREAS, Research has found that lap/shoulder belts, when properly used, reduce the risk of fatal injury to front seat occupants by 45%, and the risk of moderate-to-critical injury by 65%; and
- WHEREAS, Research shows that if a driver is unbuckled, child passengers are unbuckled 70% of the time; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies work to educate its members concerning the importance of consistent standard seat belt use for all passengers and drivers; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage public-private partnerships among public officials, law enforcement agencies, associations, communities, health groups and businesses to work to ensure that all Utah children and adults buckle up; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage and support passage of legislation that will endorse standard seat belt law that will increase the effective use of seat belts in the state of Utah.