

Darcie Perkins
155 Tao Road
Almont, CO 81210
970-433-8835

February 23, 2021

To the General Assembly for the State of Colorado:

I write this letter in support of the Draft Bill being presented titled "Driver's License Elec Renewal By Seniors". I would like to specifically address the importance of the last paragraph on page two, which reads:

“Under current law, the department may not issue a driver's license to a person under 18 years of age unless the person has submitted a log or other written evidence certifying that the person has completed a minimum amount of actual driving experience, and the form must be signed by the person who signed an affidavit of liability for the person. The bill allows this form to be signed by the person's parent or guardian or by a responsible adult.”

After a horrific experience trying to help my son obtain his driver's license, I wrote to Representative Kennedy who forwarded my email to Representative McKluskie. My question to the State of Colorado was:

“Why is it not possible for either parent to sign the driving log to verify their child has practiced over 50 hours of driving in the year he or she has had their permit? Currently only the parent that is accepting liability the year prior when the child gets their permit can confirm their driving log. They do not allow both parents to sign when they get their permit.”

We live in Almont, CO. Because of COVID-19 for my son to get a driver's license we had to drive 3 hours round trip to Montrose to perform a driving test. A driver's test was (and may still be) no longer available in Gunnison. He passed his driver's test, and we had all the proper paperwork necessary for the DMV to issue him a license, but they denied my son his license because I (his birth mother) had signed the driving log, not my husband (his birth father).

My husband happened to be out of town that week, and the DMV would not accept an electronic signature or fax, so my son was out of luck.

We had in hand an original social security card, a current passport, a driving permit, pieces of mail showing our address, and my driver's license. I couldn't understand what danger to society would exist allowing both parents to sign a driving log. I am grateful Representative McCluskie agreed something needed to change.

I owed my son an apology for how angry I became at the DMV. The State of Colorado owes him an apology too. He did everything he was supposed to do, and was denied a license. Colorado can do better. In Colorado we pay taxes because we want to serve others and have systems that work.

I urge you to pass this bill into law to make life just a little easier for rural Colorado residents. Thank you for your consideration.

Darcie Perkins
Almont, CO