

Please Support HB23-1102 Alcohol And Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement

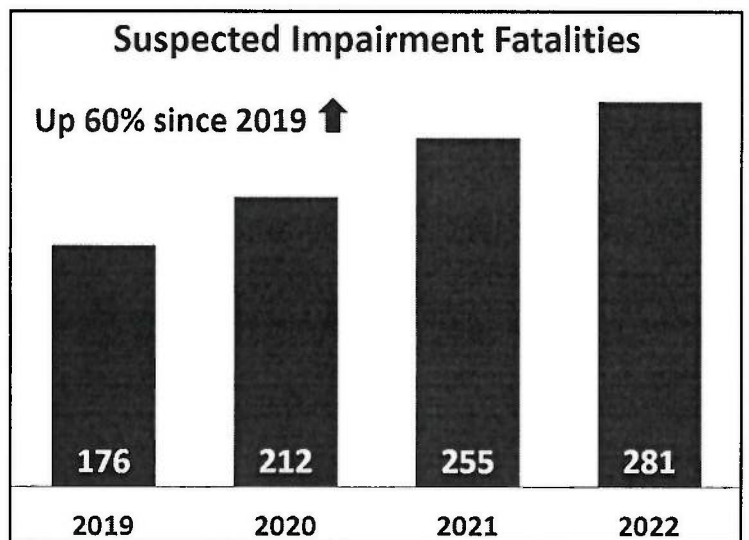
Representatives Evans & Bird, Senators Roberts & Hansen

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) *supports* HB 1102, legislation that would provide funding for high-visibility alcohol and drug-impaired driving prevention enforcement programs.

Equity and Enforcement: Our organization is committed to ensuring that traffic safety enforcement is fair and just. High visibility DUI enforcement funds save lives on our roads and help keep local enforcement efforts focused on safety-related violations such as drunk and drugged driving. With amendments made in the House, this bill establishes safeguards to ensure law enforcement agencies using these funds are complying with SB217 and existing federal law regarding checkpoints and saturation patrols. These amendments ensure that these episodes are data-driven, and focused on the locations where drunk & drugged driving crashes occur or originate from. .

Why This Bill Is Needed: Existing funding for impaired driving programs is decreasing, and CDOT anticipates that funds for high-visibility impaired driving enforcement (HVE) will be exhausted by the end of state fiscal year 2024. We know from research that DUI fatalities and proactive DUI enforcement, such as HVE activities, are highly correlated. For example, when DUI enforcement suddenly dropped 24% in 2020, drunk and drugged driving fatalities increased 20%.

- Colorado saw **281 suspected impairment fatalities** in 2022 – the most since 1986.
- More than **40% of all drunk and drugged arrests** in the state are during CDOT’s high visibility enforcement periods.
- Right now, **81 local law enforcement agencies** across the state participate in the HVE program.
- Fully funding high visibility enforcement of alcohol and drug impaired driving is crucial to keeping our communities safe.



How High Visibility DUI Enforcement Works:

CDOT funds high-visibility enforcement for local governments and law enforcement agencies to conduct 12 enforcement episodes each year (e.g., New Year’s Eve, Fourth of July, etc.).

The “high visibility” part of HVE is crucial to prevention. Research shows that people make better decisions when they know that an enforcement effort is on-going so these enforcement events are well-publicized by CDOT and local jurisdictions. To be effective, high visibility DUI enforcement efforts must be implemented with a high level of transparency and visibility which will help prevent racial profiling or discrimination.

HVE funds are restricted to impaired driving enforcement activities and community prevention and education (no equipment, training, travel, etc.). HVE activities typically include DUI checkpoints or saturation patrols, which are the top rated DUI countermeasures to prevent crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Keeping our communities safe is the goal of House Bill 1102.

Please support HB23-1102 to restore these life-saving HVE funds.

For more information please contact Amy Attwood - 720-840-4912 - amy@amyattwood.com