

## **American Council on Alcohol Problems**

### **Resolution Supporting Lowering the Legal BAC Limit to 0.05**

**Whereas**, the problem of impaired driving in America is a national epidemic, killing one person and injuring 20 more on average every hour; and...

**Whereas**, each year in the United States, nearly 10,000 people are killed in accidents involving alcohol-impaired drivers and more than 173,000 are injured, with 27,000 suffering incapacitating injuries; and ...

**Whereas**, since the mid-1990s, the proportion of deaths from accidents involving an alcohol-impaired driver has remained around 30 percent even as total highway fatalities have fallen; and ...

**Whereas**, according to a December 2012 report, more than 60 percent of wrong-way crashes were caused by alcohol-impaired drivers; and ...

**Whereas**, during the last three decades, alcohol related crashes have taken the lives of nearly 440,000 people; and ...

**Whereas**, research shows that by the time their blood alcohol content (BAC) has reached 0.05 percent, most drivers experience a decline in both cognitive and visual functions, which significantly increases the risk of a serious crash; and ...

**Whereas**, more than 100 countries on six continents have BAC limits set at 0.05 or lower; and ...

**Whereas**, the National Transportation Safety Board in May 2013 began calling for all 50 states to lower their legal BAC limits from 0.08 to 0.05, as part of its "Roadmap to Reaching Zero: Actions to Reduce Alcohol-Impaired Driving" initiative; therefore ...

**Be it Resolved** that the American Council on Alcohol Problems (ACAP) supports the National Transportation Safety Board in this life-saving endeavor and echoes its call for a more stringent legal requirement regarding impaired driving that would reduce the allowable blood alcohol content level to 0.05 or below for anyone operating a motor vehicle in the United States; and ...

**Be it further resolved** that ACAP encourages lawmakers across the nation to put forth legislation at the next session of their General Assemblies to modify the legal limit for a driver's blood alcohol level in their state to 0.05 or below and to work with the NTSB and others to educate their fellow legislators as well as constituents about the need for such a change and the important role that a lowered limit could play in increasing highway safety and reducing highway fatalities.