



Mothers Against Drunk Driving
National Office
madd.org

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March 25, 2022

Support S 131 and A 7197 creating a .05 BAC drunk driving law

Dear Lawmaker,

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) urges you to support S 131 by Senator Liu and A 7197 by Assemblymember Simon to make a .05 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) the illegal level to operate a vehicle on New York roadways.

Alcohol-impaired driving is the leading killer and the most commonly abused drug on U.S. roadways. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 10,142 people were killed in alcohol-impaired crashes in the United States in 2017, including 262 people in New York.

Currently, every state except Utah has an illegal BAC of .08. These .08 BAC laws have helped to save over 40,000 lives. MADD believes .05 BAC will help save even more lives. Studies suggest over 1,700 lives could be saved each year if all states enacted a .05 BAC law. According to the National Safety Council, the crash risk of someone driving at a .05 BAC level increases by 40 percent.

The goal of a .05 BAC is not to stop people age 21 and over from consuming alcohol, but to deter people from driving after drinking. The public supports .05, according to the AAA Foundation. Sixty-three percent of people surveyed think .05 BAC should be the illegal level.

MADD urges you to support S 131 and A 7197 making .05 BAC the illegal level to drive on New York roadways. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact MADD New York Executive Director Shawn Hirst at Shawn.Hirst@madd.org or 631-547-6233. Thank you in advance for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Alex Otte
MADD National President

P.S. For more information on .05 BAC, please visit: <https://www.madd.org/law/05-per-se-law/>.