

2556 56th St. S. W.

Wyoming, MI 49418

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

P. O. Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen;

Regarding a proposal to increase speed limits on Michigan highways, these are my thoughts;

As Rep. Bradford noted, people are already driving almost 80 mph. If the limit is increased to 80 mph, the same people will then drive at almost 90 mph. Anyone driving at 80 mph has less time to react to avoid collisions. If any of you have ever ridden with the police, EMTs or ambulances, you know it's not fun to pick up accident victims from any speed but at 80 or 90 mph, paramedics will be scooping up folks with a shovel.

Increasing the driving speed to 80 mph won't get you to your destination very much faster. Have you ever had someone pass you at a high rate of speed only to pull up behind them at an exit light? I have. We should still be very concerned about our fossil fuel use. Each mph driven over 60 mph reduces your gas mileage significantly. We should not waste fuel and then see increased fracking anywhere in Michigan but especially anywhere near any of our State Parks.

My grandchildren are already scared when riding in a car at 70 mph. They will be terrified at 80 mph especially if a grandparent is driving. Remember that vision and reaction times decrease as we age. Which begs the next question; if the speed limit is increased, will the minimum speed be increased also? A vehicle traveling 80 mph encountering merging 45 mph traffic could have problems slowing or finding an open lane to move into.

Michigan is a beautiful state that attracts many tourists, especially in the summer. When they are not sure where they are going, they often make last second decisions at exits. Increased speed will give them less time to read highway signs and will lead to more accidents. Just check out all the wrong-way accidents that have occurred on I-96 between Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

In my mind, it's just not worth driving 80 mph to get somewhere a few minutes sooner. If it's that important to someone, they should leave a few minutes earlier. We can all slow down and enjoy Michigan's beautiful scenery and then "Arrive Alive".

Sincerely,



Mrs. Mary A. Remer

CC: Michigan State Police Headquarters