

Testimony of Heather VanDusen In
Support of SB870
Noah's Law
February 27, 2020

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony.

I was convicted of a DWI, with a blood alcohol content level of .25 I was under the age of 21. When I was convicted I had to do two years of supervised probation I had to do 18 months of the interlock system I received a 8 points on my driver's license.

Before I was pulled over for drinking and driving The behavior was a regular thing that I did on a daily basis I always drink and drove my car once I was pulled over and convicted and had the interlock system installed in my vehicle the system made it very impossible to drink and drive from that point on. Anytime you had any blood alcohol content in your system you cannot start your car. There were some days when I thought that I could just stay home at night and drink instead of going to different bars and drinking or to a friend's house and drinking however the blood alcohol content disperses one drink per hour so if you stayed home and you drank more than amount of hours you going to sleep before you want to drive the next day you were unable to start your car the next day. This made it very difficult to function any longer as an alcoholic or a drunk driver because interlock system prohibits you from drinking and driving in any kind of form or fashion. Shortly after my conviction is when I had the interlock system installed I want to say probably a month afterwards is when it was installed so I stopped drinking in May which is around that month afterwards. Drinking just became huge inconvenience in my life within an interlock system installed into my vehicle. I wasn't able to go to school and work if I was drinking because I couldn't drive my car so in order to still go on with my daily responsibilities I had to stop drinking and use the interlock system that was installed my car in order to continue with my daily responsibilities.

This coming May will be nine years since my last drink. Having the interlock installed onto my car helped me realize that I had larger responsibilities to worry about rather than drinking every day. I knew the path I was on eventually I would end up killing myself or someone else when behind the wheel of a car. I am glad I've been able to come to that realization because again it's been almost 9 years since my last drink of alcohol and I can proudly say that I am a productive member of society with a great job, kids, and spouse. All of those things would have not been possible if I was going to continue to behave the way I was.

As a person who went through the program, I urge you to pass SB870 and please help save lives and make changes needed on our roadways.