

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: 1.06.12
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ANTI-LITTER EDUCATION NOW REQUIRED
IN DRIVERS' ED COURSES

EFFORT BY SEN. MILLS TO DEVELOP "ANTI-LITTER CULTURE"
AMONG LA YOUTH

The new year brings new requirements for teens seeking a driver's license. As of January 1, 2012, state law now requires that driver's education courses include instruction on littering and the economic and environmental impacts of the careless practice on our state. The new law, known as the Louisiana Increases Tourism Through Environmental Responsibility Act of 2011 or the "LITTER Act", is the result of the work of District 22 State Senator Fred Mills (R-Parks) who hopes to build the foundation for an anti-litter culture among young people that will continue through life.

"I got the idea while sitting in my car," Sen. Mills said. "I notice the back of my safety inspection sticker which says 'Buckle Up. It's the Law'. It's now become second nature to buckle up, but it took generations to change. And I thought, why not promote a generational change regarding litter?"

A 2010 Keep Louisiana Beautiful survey found that parishes and local governments spend at least \$40 million a year dealing with litter issues. Unsightly litter also impacts economic development efforts and tourism. Driver's education courses will include that type of information about littering as well as information about penalties for littering.

The new law also requires two additional questions on the driver's ed test with at least two questions devoted to the economic impact of littering on Louisiana and its citizens.

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