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Dear Senator Mazza,

I am writing you in response to your Committee's consideration of S. 276 "An Act relating to requirements for drivers who are elders to renew operators' licenses". I write on behalf of AARP's 130,000 members in Vermont to strongly oppose this discriminatory piece of legislation. I write in such strong terms because while AARP Vermont does support evidence-based models that identify at-risk drivers of all ages, we cannot support laws that single out drivers based on age alone. AARP Vermont would welcome the conversation about evidence-based solutions to provide for fair assessments of Vermonters ongoing ability to drive. But this blanket testing bill will undoubtedly limit Vermonters ability to drive, limiting access to socialization, increasing isolation, limiting access to health services, and will have particularly negative impacts on Vermonters in rural parts of our state that have limited transportation options. It is our fervent view that determinations about driving should be made on an individual basis and this bill does not allow for that.

Please let us know if you would like further information about this important topic, and I would encourage your committee to not advance this age-based discriminatory legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Marchildon", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Greg Marchildon  
State Director  
AARP Vermont

