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## Bill Would Require Vision Test For Elderly Drivers



Mary Stewart ([http://cbs11tv.com/bios/local\\_bio\\_100190649.html](http://cbs11tv.com/bios/local_bio_100190649.html))  
Reporting

*(CBS 11 News) FORT WORTH* A bill is making its way through the state legislature that would require a vision test for drivers when they reach 79 and 85 years old. The legislation is striking an emotional chord with older drivers and their families.

Senator John Carona of Dallas said older drivers have more accidents per mile than any other group of drivers.

Connie Cox manages apartments with elderly drivers. She found that sometimes people need someone outside the family to reveal what older drivers may want to keep secret.

"I see cars that are all battered and bashed, but it's a lot easier for me as an apartment manager to say something than it is for their own children to," Cox said. "Sometimes I'm able to do the family a favor by letting them know."

Cox knows from experience with her own father how tough the decision is to take away a senior's keys. "I had thought of lying to him, but mother wouldn't have allowed it," she said.

Optician Alyce Adair supports legislation to test seniors' vision. "I've seen people that don't think they had a lot of change," Adair said. But once they get a vision test, the results prove differently.

Some seniors believe the rules would discriminate against them.

"The people we know who are in their 70's and 80's are good drivers," said senior citizen June Phillips.

Supporters said that's the point of the legislation, to keep good drivers on the road.

(CBS 11 News)

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