



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 2, 2007

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Statement On The Passage of the Sober Truth On Preventing Underage Drinking Act

Statement of Stephen Wallace, SADD Chairman and CEO

“The Sober Truth on Preventing (STOP) Underage Drinking Act – the first national legislation on underage drinking – is long overdue. This marks an important victory in the battle against underage drinking. Young people use alcohol more frequently, and more heavily, than all other drugs combined. The STOP Act will combat this serious problem and help keep teens safe and alive.

“The risks of underage drinking are high – and wildly underestimated by young people. Many teens fall prey to the ‘Myth of Invincibility,’ believing that there are no real, or lasting, effects of alcohol use. They’re wrong. Impaired driving continues to claim thousands of promising young lives each year, while alcohol-related crimes, including sexual assault, affect many more. A host of other physiological, social, emotional, and legal problems can also result from underage drinking and impaired driving.

“As a peer-to-peer youth education and prevention organization, SADD has been a strong supporter of the STOP Act, and SADD students did their part by meeting with their Congressional leaders to speak out on this important issue. SADD thanks the sponsors of the bill for their commitment to protecting young lives and applauds Congress for passing and the President for signing this landmark legislation.”