0.08 DWI looms; critics fear for social drinkers

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Louisiana ranks among the top 10 states in the nation for drunken driving deaths. But proponents of a bill to change the definition of DWI to driving with a blood-alcohol level of 0.08 percent — down from the current 0.10 percent — say this could finally be the year the Legislature ends the carnage.

"Before this week, I would have given 0.08 percent a 50-50 chance. Now I'd say my chances of passing are 80 percent," said state Rep. Reggie Dupre, D-Houma, a proponent of the lower DWI threshold. If the 0.08 bill does prevail, proponents of DWI.