Florida Senate - 2019 Bill No. SB 76



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House . Comm: RCS 02/19/2019 The Committee on Infrastructure and Security (Simpson) recommended the following: Senate Amendment to Amendment (594074) (with title amendment) Delete lines 42 - 58 and insert: who are texting while driving while distracted as provided in subsection (4). (4) (3) (a) 1. A person may not operate a motor vehicle when driving while distracted while manually typing or entering multiple letters, numbers, symbols, or other characters into a

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| 11 | wireless communications device or while sending or reading data  |
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| 12 | on such a device for the purpose of nonvoice interpersonal       |
| 13 | communication, including, but not limited to, communication      |
| 14 | methods known as texting, e-mailing, and instant messaging. As   |
| 15 | used in this section, the term "wireless communications device"  |
| 16 | means any handheld device used or capable of being used in a     |
| 17 | handheld manner, that is designed or intended to receive or      |
| 18 | transmit text or character-based messages, access or store data, |
| 19 | or connect to the Internet or any communications service as      |
| 20 | defined in s. 812.15 and that allows text communications. For    |
| 21 | the purposes of this paragraph, a motor vehicle that is          |
| 22 | stationary is not being operated and is not subject to the       |
| 23 | prohibition in this paragraph.                                   |
| 24 | 2.a. During the period of October 1, 2019, through December      |
| 25 | 31, 2019, a law enforcement officer may stop motor vehicles to   |
| 26 | issue verbal or written warnings to persons who are driving      |
| 27 | while distracted for the purposes of informing and educating     |
| 28 | such persons. This sub-subparagraph shall stand repealed on      |
| 29 | <u>October 1, 2020.</u>  |
| 30 | b. After December 31, 2019, a law enforcement officer may        |
| 31 | stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are       |
| 32 | driving while distracted.  |
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| 34 | ======================================                           |
| 35 | And the title is amended as follows:                             |
| 36 | Delete line 139  |
| 37 | and insert:  |
| 38 | distracted; authorizing a law enforcement officer                |
| 39 | during a specified period to stop motor vehicles to              |
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40 issue warnings to persons who are driving while 41 distracted; providing for repeal of a provision; 42 authorizing a law enforcement officer, after a 43 specified date, to stop motor vehicles and issue 44 citations to persons who are driving while distracted; 45 revising exceptions to such prohibition;