State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S2/20/19

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1182

By: Representative C. Fite
By: Senator M. Pitsch

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DISTRACTED DRIVING; TO MAKE THE USE OF A HANDHELD WIRELESS TELEPHONE IN A SCHOOL ZONE A PRIMARY OFFENSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DISTRACTED DRIVING; AND TO MAKE THE USE OF A HANDHELD WIRELESS TELEPHONE IN A SCHOOL ZONE A PRIMARY OFFENSE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-51-1605 is amended to read as follows:


Except as provided under § 27-51-1609, a driver of a motor vehicle is not to be stopped or detained solely to determine compliance with this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-1609 is amended to read as follows:


(a) Except as provided under subsection (b) of this section, a driver of a motor vehicle shall not use a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle when passing a school building or school zone during school hours when children are present and outside the building.

(b) A driver of a motor vehicle who is passing a school building or
school zone during school hours when children are present and outside the building may use a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle for an emergency purpose.

(c) This section does not apply to a law enforcement officer engaged in the performance of his or her official duties.

(d) A law enforcement officer may stop or detain a driver of a motor vehicle solely to determine compliance with this section.

/s/C. Fite

APPROVED: 3/1/19