

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1229

4
5 By: Representative Hendren
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 27, CHAPTER 51,
10 SUBCHAPTER 14 TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL SECTION TO MAKE IT
11 UNLAWFUL TO OPERATE A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE USING A
12 CELLULAR TELEPHONE, TO LIST CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, AND TO
13 PROVIDE A PENALTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO MAKE IT UNLAWFUL TO OPERATE A MOTOR
16 VEHICLE WHILE USING A CELLULAR TELEPHONE
17 AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 51, Subchapter 14 is amended
24 to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 27-51-1408. Operation of a motor vehicle while using cellular telephone
26 prohibited.

27 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle
28 while using a cellular telephone in the motor vehicle except if the cellular
29 telephone is equipped for hands-free operation and the driver has both hands
30 on the vehicle's steering mechanism.

31 (b) This section shall not apply to a driver using the cellular
32 telephone:

33 (1) While the motor vehicle is parked;

34 (2) To contact law enforcement officials, public safety,
35 emergency medical, or fire emergency personnel, or a 911 public safety
36 communications center to report an emergency situation; or

1 (3) In the course of performing the driver's official duties as a
2 certified law enforcement officer, firefighter, ambulance personnel or
3 emergency medical technician.

4 (c) A person who violates this section shall be subject:

5 (1) To issuance of a citation for the first offense as a warning
6 and no penalty shall be imposed and no court appearance shall be required
7 unless the person wishes to contest the offense; and

8 (2) To a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) for any second
9 or subsequent offense.

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