

HB 101: DISTRACTED DRIVER



HB 101 requires that drivers use a hands-free method while using a cellphone, which is a more enforceable law than the ones currently in place.

CURRENT CRISIS

Utah records from 2016 show distracted driving caused 5,748 crashes with 3,303 injuries and 27 deaths.



PUSH TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION

20 states now prohibit all drivers from using a hand-held cellphone while driving, including Arizona, Nevada, and Oregon.



There is also public support, with **3 out of 4** Utahns supporting this bill.

BILL DETAILS

A cellphone may only be used while driving if you are using it in a hands-free manner such as dashboard mounts, speaker phone, Bluetooth, etc.

Since last year's HB 13, the penalty has been reduced from a misdemeanor to an infraction.



POLICY EFFECTS

The first objective of this bill is to improve safety. Other states have shown reduced crash statistics, some over 20%, after enacting similar legislation.

Another objective of the bill is to make it enforceable for law enforcement, and easier for the public to understand.



ENDORSEMENTS

Police Chiefs Association, Law Enforcement Legislative Committee, UHP, UFA, UPD, Utah PTA, Utah State Fire Chiefs, Motorcyclists in Utah, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, AARL/Two Way Radio Operators, Women's Legislative Council, Chamber West Chamber of Commerce, AAA, and UDOT



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FACTS ABOUT DISTRACTED DRIVING

1

TEXTING WHILE DRIVING IS DANGEROUS BECAUSE IT USES 3 MAIN SOURCES OF DRIVER DISTRACTION

- VISUAL - eyes off the road
- MANUAL - hands off the wheel
- COGNITIVE - mind off the task

2

1 IN 4 CRASHES INVOLVE DISTRACTED DRIVING

Source: Zero Fatalities

3

DRIVING WHILE DISTRACTED IS EQUIVALENT TO DRIVING 2X OVER THE PREVIOUSLY LEGAL BAC LIMIT (.08)

Utah has taken the lead with lowering the legal alcohol limit. It is time we are equally strict on driving distracted.

Source: Zero Fatalities

4

TEENS ARE 2-4 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO TEXT AND DRIVE IF THEY SEE THEIR PARENTS DOING IT

Source: End Distracted Driving.Org

5

TEXTING AND DRIVING TAKES YOUR EYES OFF THE ROAD FOR APPROX 5 SECONDS

In that time at 55mph your car travels the length of a football field.

Source: Zero Fatalities

