

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 140**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Obernolte**

February 18, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 140—Relative to Don't Text and Drive Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 140, as introduced, Obernolte. Don't Text and Drive Day.

This measure would proclaim April 27, 2016, as Don't Text and Drive Day, and would call upon individuals, government agencies, and schools, among others, to promote awareness of the problem of texting and driving and to support programs and policies that reduce the incidence of texting while driving in California and nationwide.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Texting while driving poses a significant risk to  
2 drivers and those around them; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2008, the Legislature passed Senate Bill No.  
4 28, which prohibits drivers from operating a motor vehicle while  
5 using a wireless device to send text messages; and

6 WHEREAS, The National Safety Council estimates that over  
7 340,000, or 6 percent, of all car crashes in 2013 involved text  
8 messaging; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Virginia Tech Transportation  
10 Institute, texting while driving is six times more likely to result in  
11 an accident than driving while intoxicated; and

12 WHEREAS, In a 2011 study by the federal Centers for Disease  
13 Control and Prevention, 31.2 percent of United States drivers 18

1 to 64, inclusive, years of age reported that they had read or sent  
2 text or email messages while driving at least once in the past 30  
3 days; and

4 WHEREAS, Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes  
5 from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent, at 55  
6 miles per hour, of driving the length of an entire football field,  
7 blind; and

8 WHEREAS, In response to a 2013 California Office of Traffic  
9 Safety survey, more than 36 percent of Californians surveyed  
10 thought texting or talking on a cell phone while driving posed the  
11 biggest safety problem on California roadways; and

12 WHEREAS, Nearly 70 percent of California drivers surveyed  
13 said they had been hit or nearly hit by a driver who was talking or  
14 texting on a cell phone; and

15 WHEREAS, Nearly 48 percent of Californians surveyed said  
16 that texting while driving is the most serious distraction for drivers;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, According to the National Highway Traffic Safety  
19 Administration, text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse  
20 than driving while not distracted; and

21 WHEREAS, As of December 2013, 153.3 billion text messages  
22 were sent in the United States every month, according to CTIA -  
23 The Wireless Association; and

24 WHEREAS, As reported in a 2012 National Highway Traffic  
25 Safety Administration survey, at any given daylight moment across  
26 America, approximately 660,000 drivers are using cell phones or  
27 manipulating electronic devices while driving, a number that has  
28 held steady since 2010; and

29 WHEREAS, According to a University of Michigan  
30 Transportation Research Institute study, about 25 percent of  
31 teenagers respond to a text message once or more every time they  
32 drive, and additionally, 20 percent of teenagers and 10 percent of  
33 parents admitted to having an extended multmessage texting  
34 conversation while driving. Furthermore, the study reported that  
35 parents who more frequently engaged in distracted driving  
36 behaviors had teenagers who engaged in distracted driving  
37 behaviors more frequently than other young drivers; now, therefore,  
38 be it

39 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
40 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 27, 2016,

1 as Don't Text and Drive Day, and calls upon individuals,  
2 government agencies, business leaders, hospitals, schools, and  
3 public and private institutions within the state to promote awareness  
4 of the problem of texting and driving and to support programs and  
5 policies that reduce the incidence of texting while driving in  
6 California and nationwide; and be it further  
7 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
8 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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