

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 137

Introduced by Assembly Member Frazier

April 21, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 137—Relative to Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 137, as introduced, Frazier. Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim April 2014 to be Distracted Driving Awareness Month and would call upon all residents, government agencies, business leaders, hospitals, schools, and public and private institutions within the state to promote awareness of the distracted driving problem and to support programs and policies to reduce the incidence of distracted driving in California and nationwide.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, According to a recent National Motor Vehicle
2 Crash Causation Survey, 80 percent of all traffic incidents and 65
3 percent of all near-crashes involve some type of distraction; and
4 WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of all fatal teen collisions are
5 thought to be caused by reckless and distracted driving; and
6 WHEREAS, Fatal accidents caused by cellular telephone usage
7 are severely underreported; and
8 WHEREAS, Every year, thousands of people are killed in
9 automobile crashes where a driver was thought to be distracted;
10 and

1 WHEREAS, There is a clear lack of understanding of the scope
2 of the distracted driving problem and what actually constitutes
3 distracted driving among the public. Steps should be taken
4 immediately to educate the public about these issues without delay;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Distracted driving is defined as when the operator
7 of a motor vehicle continues to use his or her hand-held or
8 hands-free cellular telephone while driving; and

9 WHEREAS, The evidence is clear that drivers utilizing so-called
10 “hands-free” devices are just as distracted as those texting and
11 calling with hand-held phones; and

12 WHEREAS, As mobile devices become more a part of everyday
13 life, the potential for increased carnage caused by distracted driving
14 will only increase. Therefore, public education campaigns such as
15 those provided by the National Safety Council are critical to ensure
16 public safety; and

17 WHEREAS, This Legislature should examine strategies to
18 provide a more accurate picture of the scope of this tragedy
19 statewide; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
21 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature proclaims the month of
22 April 2014 to be Distracted Driving Awareness Month and calls
23 upon all residents, government agencies, business leaders,
24 hospitals, schools, and public and private institutions within the
25 state to promote awareness of the distracted driving problem and
26 to support programs and policies to reduce the incidence of
27 distracted driving in California and nationwide.