

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

_____ Bill Number _____

Legislative Action:

House Committee: _____

Introduced by: Lizzy Patterson

House: _____

Authored by: Lizzy Patterson

Senate Committee: _____

Delegation: Butte High

Senate: _____

Governor: _____

Referred to Committee: _____

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: “Motor vehicles: electronic wireless communications device.”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. This bill would prohibit a person from driving a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication.

Section 2. By creating a new infraction, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Section 3. To “write, send, or read a text-based communication” means using an electronic wireless communications device to manually communicate with any person using a text-based communication, including, but not limited to, communications referred to as a text message, instant message, or electronic mail. A person shall not be deemed to be writing, reading, or sending a text-based communication if the person reads, selects, or enters a telephone number or name in an electronic wireless communications device for the purpose of making or receiving a telephone call.

Section 4. A violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a base fine of fifty dollars (\$50) for a first offense and seventy-five dollars (\$75) for each subsequent offense.

Section 5. This section does not apply to an emergency services professional using an electronic wireless communications device while operating an authorized emergency vehicle in the course of his or her service.

Section 6. This bill will become effective immediately after being passed.

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