

In Support Of NYS Assembly Bill No. A07299B and NYS Senate Bill No. S03195C To Prohibit Text Messaging While Operating A Motor Vehicle

The Laws and Rules Committee (Chairman Bischoff and Legislators Decker, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Cummings, Maloney and Roberts) offers the following:

WHEREAS, Section 1225-c of the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York provides that no person shall operate a motor vehicle upon a public highway while using a mobile telephone to engage in a call while such vehicle is in motion, and

WHEREAS, there have been instances throughout the State of New York where operators of motor vehicles are text messaging while driving, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature feels that the New York State Legislature should adopt an amendment to the Vehicle and Traffic Law to prohibit operators of motor vehicles from text messaging while they are driving, and

WHEREAS, bills have been proposed in the State Assembly (Bill No. A07299B) and the Senate (Bill No. S03195C) to prohibit operators of motor vehicles from using a mobile telephone for writing, sending or reading a text message while such vehicle is in motion, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature supports NYS Assembly Bill No. A07299B and NYS Senate Bill No. S03195C and feels that this proposed legislation is desirable to avoid further accidents.

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature hereby memorializes the NYS Assembly, the NYS Senate and the NYS Governor to enact legislation to prohibit text messaging while operating a motor vehicle, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor David Paterson, New York State Comptroller's Office, Senate Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Senate Minority Leader Malcolm Smith, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari, Assembly Minority Leader James N. Tedisco, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin A. Cahill, Clifford W. Crouch, Peter Lopez and Thomas Kirwan and the New York State Association of Counties, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to the Charlie Markel, Councilmember, Town of Cheektowaga, and the Town Clerk of towns in Ulster County requesting them to support this resolution,

Resolution No. 230 July 9, 2008

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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 28 NOES: 1
(NOES: Legislator Roberts)
(Absent: Legislators Briggs, Dart, Kraft and
Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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