
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 78 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY K. WARD, SABATINA, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA, FARNESE, DINNIMAN, BROWNE, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK, MENSCH, KILLION, BAKER, BLAKE, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, J. WARD, BREWSTER AND COSTA, APRIL 9, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 9, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2019 as "Distracted Driving
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Distracted driving is any activity that could divert
4 a driver's attention away from the primary task of driving; and

5 WHEREAS, Texting is the most alarming distraction while
6 driving because it involves manual, visual and cognitive
7 distraction simultaneously; and

8 WHEREAS, Distraction latency lasts an average of 27 seconds,
9 resulting in a driver not being fully engaged in the primary
10 task of driving even after having put down an interactive
11 wireless communication device; and

12 WHEREAS, A recent nationwide survey suggests that more than
13 60% of drivers reported using their interactive wireless
14 communication device while driving; and

15 WHEREAS, Distracted driving is not confined to a single
16 cause, age group, level of education or driver demographic; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2017, there were more than 15,600 crashes

1 involving a distracted driver in this Commonwealth; and

2 WHEREAS, From 2013 through 2017, there were 317 fatalities in
3 crashes involving a distracted driver, or an average of 63
4 fatalities per year, in this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, Even though this Commonwealth has a primary offense
6 anti-texting law, which prohibits drivers from sending, reading
7 or writing a text-based communication via an interactive
8 wireless communication device while the vehicle is in motion,
9 additional legislative action and enforcement can help mitigate
10 and reduce crashes and fatal crashes involving distracted
11 driving; and

12 WHEREAS, The best way to end distracted driving is for
13 drivers to put down their interactive wireless communication
14 device and educate all residents of this Commonwealth about the
15 danger distracted driving poses; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2019
17 as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all drivers in this
20 Commonwealth to consider the lives of others on the road and
21 avoid distracted driving.