

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 52

Introduced by Assembly Member Frazier

March 26, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 52—Relative to distracted driving.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 52, as introduced, Frazier. Distracted Driving Awareness Month
This measure would proclaim April 2015 as Distracted Driving Awareness Month and call for awareness of the distracted driving problem and support for programs and policies to reduce the incidence of distracted driving.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, A 2013 statewide traffic safety survey conducted
2 by the California Office of Traffic Safety, reported that more than
3 36 percent of Californians surveyed thought texting or talking on
4 a cell phone while driving posed the biggest safety problem on
5 California roadways; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2013, nearly 70 percent of the California drivers
7 surveyed said they had been hit or nearly hit by a driver who was
8 talking or texting on a cell phone; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2013, 45 percent of the drivers surveyed said
10 they have made a driving mistake while talking on a cell phone;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In 2013, nearly 48 percent of the drivers surveyed
13 said that texting while driving is the most serious distraction for
14 drivers; and

1 WHEREAS, A 2012 statewide observational survey of cell
2 phone use by California drivers, showed that 7.4 percent of drivers
3 were using cell phones at any given time during daylight hours;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In 2012, 3,328 people were killed and 421,000
6 were injured in distraction-affected crashes; and

7 WHEREAS, To read or type the average text takes 4.6 seconds.
8 Just three seconds of texting while driving at 65 mph is equal to
9 driving 100 yards, equal to the length of a football field,
10 blindfolded; and

11 WHEREAS, Engaging in visual-manual subtasks, such as
12 reaching for a phone, dialing, and texting, associated with the use
13 of handheld phones and other portable devices increased the risk
14 of getting into a crash by three times; and

15 WHEREAS, Text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse
16 than driving while not distracted; and

17 WHEREAS, According to the National Highway Traffic Safety
18 Administration, only about 1 out of 5 young drivers think that
19 texting makes no difference to their driving performance.
20 Sixty-eight percent of young drivers 18 to 20 years of age are
21 willing to answer incoming phone calls on some, most, or all
22 driving trips; and

23 WHEREAS, Parents who engage in distracting behaviors while
24 driving more frequently have teens who do the same. According
25 to a 2012 teen driver distraction study conducted jointly by the
26 University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute and
27 Toyota, teens send or read text messages once a trip 26 times more
28 often than their parents think they do; now, therefore be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2015 as
31 Distracted Driving Awareness Month and calls upon residents,
32 government agencies, business leaders, hospitals, schools, and
33 public and private institutions within the state to promote awareness
34 of the distracted driving problem and to support programs and
35 policies to reduce the incidence of distracted driving in California
36 and nationwide; and be it further.

37 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
38 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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