

HB 1879 -- HANDHELD WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

SPONSOR: Tate

This bill prohibits the use of specified electronic communication devices while driving. Exceptions for emergency vehicles, roadside assistance, emergency services contact, and operator dispatch operations are specified in the bill. Certain hands-free communications devices are allowed for individuals 18 years of age or older. A violation of the bill is punishable by a \$50 fine unless it occurs in specified work or school zones, in which case a \$100 fine is set.

A violation is not a moving violation for purposes of point assessment but is a serious traffic violation under the commercial driver's license rules and regulations.

The bill contains a preemption clause, which prohibits additional or contrary laws, rules, or ordinances at the political subdivision level that involve hand-held electronic wireless communications devices and motor vehicles.

This bill is the same as HB 74 (2019).