

February 14, 2007

H 186. BAN MOBILE PHONE USE BY SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS. Filed 2/14/07. *TO MAKE USING A MOBILE PHONE UNLAWFUL WHILE OPERATING A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL BUS, A PUBLIC ACTIVITY BUS, OR A PRIVATE PASSENGER VEHICLE OWNED BY A PRIVATE SCHOOL OR DAY CARE CENTER AND USED PRIMARILY TO TRANSPORT CHILDREN TO AND FROM A SCHOOL OR DAY CARE CENTER ON A PUBLIC STREET OR HIGHWAY.* Enacts new GS 20-140.6 making it a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 for an individual operating one of the following vehicles to engage in a call on a mobile phone while the vehicle is in motion: a public or private school bus, a public activity bus, or a private passenger vehicle owned by a private school or day care center and used primarily to transport children to and from a school or day care center. Provides exceptions if the use of the mobile telephone is solely for the purpose of communicating with emergency, medical, fire, or law enforcement personnel regarding an emergency situation. The statute does not authorize seizure or forfeiture of a mobile phone. Prohibits local governments from passing any ordinance regulating mobile phone use. Provides definitions section to clarify meaning of terms used in the statute. Effective for offenses committed on or after December 1, 2007.

Intro. by Pierce.

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