

March 7, 2007

**H 527. BAN MOBILE PHONE USE WHILE DRIVING.** Filed 3/7/07. *TO MAKE USING A MOBILE PHONE UNLAWFUL WHILE DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE ON A PUBLIC STREET OR HIGHWAY.*

Enacts new GS 20-137.4 making it unlawful to (1) use a mobile phone to make a call or (2) use other technology that provides access to digital media such as the Internet, games, or camera, while operating a motor vehicle on a public street or highway. Does not apply to (1) hands-free mobile phones; (2) using a phone in an emergency situation; or (3) a call made by a police officer, member of the fire department, or ambulance operator in performance of official duties. Prohibits school bus drivers from using a mobile phone or other electronic device, including hands-free devices, while operating a moving school bus carrying passengers, unless it is for placing an emergency call. Violations are punishable by a fine of \$100 and court costs, and no points are to be assessed by the Division of Motor Vehicles. Provides that local governments may not regulate the use of mobile telephones. Effective for offenses on or after December 1, 2007.

**Intro. by McAllister.**

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