February 2, 2009

S 22. BAN TEXTING WHILE DRIVING (=H 9). Filed 2/2/09. TO MAKE IT UNLAWFUL TO USE ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATED WITH A MOBILE PHONE WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE ON A PUBLIC STREET OR HIGHWAY OR PUBLIC VEHICULAR AREA. Substantively identical to H 9, filed 1/29/09.

Intro. by Forrester.

GS 20

April 1, 2009

S 22. BAN TEXTING WHILE DRIVING. Filed 2/2/09. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition.

Amends GS 20-137.3(a)(1) to provide that the definition for *additional technology* does not include electronic mail or text messaging.

Amends new GS 20-137.4A to clarify that it is unlawful to use a mobile telephone to: (1) manually enter multiple letters or text in the device to communicate with another person or (2) read any electronic mail or text message that is transmitted to the device or stored within the device, but provides that this prohibition does not apply to any name or number stored in the device nor to any caller identification information. Increases the exceptions by providing that this section does not apply to: (1) the operator of a vehicle that is lawfully parked or stopped, (2) the use of global positioning systems (GPS) or wireless communication devices, and (3) the use of voice operated technology. Includes a penalty for a violation of this section while operating a school bus, making a violation a Class 2 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100.

Makes conforming changes to the title.