

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 91

2016 Regular Session

Colomb

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

TRAFFIC. Increases penalties for using wireless telecommunications devices while operating a motor vehicle under certain circumstances. (gov sig)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Adds requirement that \$25 from all fines collected distributed to the indigent defender fund of the judicial district in which the citation is issued.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

DIGEST

SB 91 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Colomb

Present law prohibits a person from operating a motor vehicle upon any public road or highway of this state while using a wireless telecommunications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication or to post to a social networking site. Provides that a penalty for a first violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$175, and each subsequent violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Proposed law increases penalty for a first violation to a fine of up to \$500, and increases fine for each subsequent violation to be up to \$1,000.

Present law prohibits a person who holds a Class "E" learner's license or intermediate license from operating a motor vehicle on any public road or highway of this state while using any wireless telecommunications device to engage in a call, unless the wireless telecommunications device is a hands-free wireless telephone. Provides that a penalty for a first violation is a fine of up to \$175, and each subsequent violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Proposed law increases these penalties to a fine of up to \$500 for a first violation and a fine of up to \$1,000 for each subsequent violation.

Present law provides that, except in a driver emergency, no person 17 years of age or younger can operate a motor vehicle on any public road or highway in this state while using any wireless telecommunications device to engage in a call or write, send or read a text-based communication. Provides that a penalty for a first violation is a fine of up to \$100, and each subsequent violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$250.

Proposed law increases these penalties to a fine of up to \$250 for a first violation and for each subsequent violation provides a fine of up to \$500 plus suspension of one's driver's license for 60 days.

Present law prohibits a person from using any wireless telecommunications device while operating a motor vehicle upon any public road or highway during the posted hours within a school zone on a public road or highway. Provides that a penalty for a first violation is a fine of up to \$175, and each subsequent violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Proposed law increases these penalties to a fine of up to \$500 for a first violation and for each subsequent violation provides a fine of up to \$1,000 plus suspension of one's driver's license for 60 days.

Requires that \$25 from all fines collected under proposed law be distributed to the indigent defender fund of the judicial district in which the citation is issued.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 32:300.5(C)(1) and (2), 300.6(C)(1) and (2), 300.7(E)(1)(a) and (b), and 300.8(D)(2)(a) and (b); adds R.S. 15:571.11(A)(4))

Thomas L. Tyler
Deputy Chief of Staff