

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 472 (SB 91)

2016 Regular Session

Colomb

Prior law prohibited 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. Provided 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.

New 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.

Prior law prohibited 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. Provided 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.

New 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.

Prior law provided 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. Provided 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.

New 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.

Prior law prohibited 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. Provided 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.

New 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 new law be distributed to the indigent defender fund of the judicial district in which the citation is issued.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 13, 2016).

(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))