

Senate Bill 521

Sponsored by Senator BURDICK, Representative OLSON; Senator GORDLY

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates offense of distracted driving. Punishes by maximum fine of \$360.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to distracted driving.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2007 Act is added to and made a part of the Oregon Vehicle**
5 **Code.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) A person commits the offense of distracted driving if the person operates**
7 **a motor vehicle on a highway while engaging in a distracting activity that interferes with the**
8 **person's ability to operate the motor vehicle.**

9 **(2) For purposes of this section:**

10 **(a) "Distracting activity" includes, but is not limited to, reading, writing, performing**
11 **personal grooming, interacting with pets or unsecured cargo, using a mobile communication**
12 **device and engaging in any activity that diverts a person's attention from the operation of**
13 **a motor vehicle.**

14 **(b) "Mobile communication device" means a text messaging device or a wireless, two-way**
15 **communication device designed to receive and transmit voice communication.**

16 **(3) This section does not apply to:**

17 **(a) A person operating an ambulance or emergency vehicle; or**

18 **(b) A person summoning medical or other emergency help if no other person in the ve-**
19 **hicle is capable of summoning help.**

20 **(4) The offense described in this section, distracted driving, is a Class B traffic violation.**
21

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.