

1 S.151

2 Introduced by Senators Sears and Brock

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Motor vehicles; wireless telephones; texting

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit persons operating a motor
7 vehicle on the traveled portion of a highway with a learner permit or junior
8 operator license from using a wireless telephone or other electronic
9 communication device, and to prohibit persons operating with an operator
10 license on the traveled portion of a highway from using a wireless telephone or
11 electronic communication device, except for hands-free. Calls to 911 are
12 exempt.

13 An act relating to the use of wireless telephones and texting devices

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 1095a is added to read:

16 § 1095a. WIRELESS TELEPHONE USE; TEXTING; LEARNERS AND

17 JUNIOR OPERATORS

18 (a) A person operating a motor vehicle with a learner permit under the
19 provisions of section 617 of this title or with a junior operator license under the
20 provisions of section 607 of this title shall not use any wireless telephone or

1 electronic communication device while operating on the traveled portion of the
2 highway. This prohibition shall not apply if it is necessary to place an
3 emergency 911 call.

4 (b) A person who violates this section commits a civil violation and shall
5 be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$100.00.

6 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 1095b is added to read:

7 § 1095b. USE OF HANDS-FREE WIRELESS TELEPHONES BY A
8 PERSON WITH AN OPERATOR LICENSE; TEXTING

9 (a) A person operating a motor vehicle with a valid operator license shall
10 be restricted to using only a hands-free wireless telephone or hands-free
11 electronic communication device while operating on the traveled portion of the
12 highway. This prohibition shall not apply if it is necessary to place an
13 emergency 911 call.

14 (b) A person who violates this section commits a civil violation and shall
15 be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$100.00.