

Comment Report

HSB 668

A bill for an act relating to traffic violations and enforcement, including the use of an electronic device in a voice-activated or hands-free mode while driving and the use of automated or remote systems for traffic law enforcement, providing penalties, making penalties applicable, and including effective date provisions.

Subcommittee Members: Thompson, P.-CH, Meggers, Scheetz

Date: 02/08/2024

Time: 02:30 PM

Location: RM 19

Name: Sandy Wilson

Comment: Citizen Engagement declares AGAINST HSB 668. There are MANY things which cause a person to be distracted while driving eating, smoking, adjusting the radio, a screaming child in the back seat. Are we going to make these things illegal as well? Also, have you used the handsfree screens in cars to answer and make calls while driving? It was more distracting than just holding a phone. Use of a cell phone should be considered distracted driving and covered under existing law. Call me cynical, but when a bill is accompanied by an analysis of how much revenue to expect from fines, it is pretty obvious this is just another way to add money to the state coffers. If you really want to save us, allocate money to produce a PSA that warns Iowans cellphone use is considered when determining distracted driving charges and make the penalty BIG. Additionally, this bill covers two subjects which is prohibited by Iowa Code. We elect Republicans to improve our freedoms. Please kill the bill.