

Senate File 297 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY HOGG

(COMPANION TO LSB 2581HH
BY SWAIM)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the use of a cellular telephone by a motor
2 vehicle operator with an instruction permit or intermediate
3 driver's license issued under the graduated driver licensing
4 program and making penalties applicable.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
6 TLSB 2581SS 82
7 dea/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. Section 321.180B, Code 2007, is amended by
1 2 adding the following new subsection:
1 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. CELL PHONE USE RESTRICTED. A person
1 4 who has been issued an instruction permit or an intermediate
1 5 driver's license under this section shall not operate or
1 6 utilize a handheld cellular telephone, or other handheld
1 7 device used for remote two-way communication, while operating
1 8 a motor vehicle on a highway. This subsection does not apply
1 9 when the motor vehicle is at a complete stop off the roadway
1 10 or when a handheld cellular telephone or other handheld
1 11 communication device is used to call 9-1-1 or to contact law
1 12 enforcement authorities or an emergency response agency in an
1 13 emergency situation.

EXPLANATION

1 14
1 15 This bill prohibits a motor vehicle operator with an
1 16 instruction permit or intermediate license issued under the
1 17 graduated driver licensing program from using a handheld
1 18 cellular telephone or other handheld two-way communication
1 19 device while driving. Exceptions are allowed for 911 calls
1 20 and calls to law enforcement authorities or emergency response
1 21 agencies in an emergency situation. In addition, the bill
1 22 does not prohibit the use of a cell phone when the motor
1 23 vehicle is at a complete stop off the roadway.
1 24 A violation of graduated driver licensing provisions is a
1 25 simple misdemeanor, punishable by a scheduled fine of \$30. In
1 26 addition, a person 17 years of age must be violation-free for
1 27 12 months to qualify for a full driver's license.
1 28 LSB 2581SS 82
1 29 dea:rj/je/5