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TownMapsUSA.com



nc >
North Carolina
Chamber
Political Program

FREE ENTERPRISE
FOUNDATION



**Passage of a hands-free
law is IIANC's
Top Legislative Priority
for the 2019 Session of the
NC General Assembly**



10,000
agents and
agency
personnel



800
agencies
all across
NC



FREE ADVERTISING FOR IIANC MEMBERS



JOIN THE MOVEMENT. HELP STOP DISTRACTED DRIVING.





Working within a collaborative partnership of insurers and agents, highway safety organizations, law enforcement, related advocacy groups and Commissioner of Insurance Mike Causey, we will coordinate advocacy and engagement in support of hands-free legislation.

“Brian Garlock Act”

What does this mean for you?



The Hands-Free North Carolina bill is designed to save lives and help lower insurance costs

How will it work?

This bill will prohibit drivers from using a hand-held phone behind the wheel

The Brian Garlock Act will introduce a Hands-Free law in North Carolina



Illegal to touch or support phone while operating a moving vehicle.



Using speakerphone or Bluetooth still legal.



You can not watch, record, or broadcast photos or video while operating a moving vehicle.

77%

of North Carolinians say they would support a hands-free law.¹

STOP TALKING TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

95.5%

agree using a mobile phone while driving is just as bad as drunk driving.²

Georgia passed a hands-free law in July 2018:

- Traffic fatalities are **DOWN 11%** from September 2017 to September 2018 (the largest decrease in 10 years).³
- Phone use while driving **DROPPED 22%** in the first month.⁴

Vote YES on “Hands-Free Legislation”

Now is the time to Protect North Carolina Drivers



#HandsFreeNorthCarolina

Sources: ¹ North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program ² Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina (IIANC) ³ Georgia State Patrol ⁴ TrueMotion

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TOWN HALL MEETING



Voter Attitudes on Distracted Driving Conducted by Meredith College Poll Program

(Statewide, Registered Voters, August 25 – 30, 2018, N = 750, $\pm 4\%$)

- More than half of respondents – 50.9% – agree that ‘distracted driving is the **MOST** serious road and highway safety problem in North Carolina today.’
- Another 42.2% said they feel distracted driving is a serious problem but perhaps not the *most* serious – that’s a total of 93.1% who see distracted driving as a **serious** problem.
- 95.9% agreed the distracted driving – specifically using a mobile phone while driving – is as bad as drunk driving (more dangerous = 57.8%; at least as dangerous = 38.1%).
- It’s not partisan - 52.5% of Democrats, 52% of Republicans, 48.7% of Unaffiliates agree distracted driving is the most serious road and highway safety problem.



Voter Attitudes on Distracted Driving Conducted by Meredith College Poll Program (Statewide, Registered Voters, August 25 – 30, 2018, N = 750, $\pm 4\%$)

- A plurality (43.6%) support having a ‘hands-free’ law, slightly more than support a total ban on mobile phone use while driving (38.4%) – only 3% supported no restriction on using a mobile phone while driving.
- More than half (50.2%) are convinced a ‘hands-free’ law would **reduce** the number of accidents.
- 52.4% say support for a ‘hands-free’ law would make them **more likely** to support a candidate running for the NC General Assembly – 24% are much more likely, and 28.4% somewhat more likely.
- Only 6.6% say it would make the less likely to support a legislative candidate (3.3% much less likely, and 3.3% somewhat more likely).



**Rep. Kevin
Corbin**
**NC House
District 120**
*Cherokee, Clay,
Macon, Graham
Counties*



**Sen. Jim
Burgin**
**NC Senate
District 12**
**Harnett,
Johnston, Lee
Counties**



**Sen. Todd
Johnson**
**NC Senate
District 35**
*Union
County*



**Sen. Vickie
Sawyer**
**NC Senate
District 34**
*Iredell, Yadkin
Counties*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

S

SENATE BILL 364

1

Short Title: Brian Garlock Act. (Public)
Sponsors: Senators Tarte, Lee, and Ballard (Primary Sponsors).
Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 27, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE USING A MOBILE TELEPHONE OR ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION DEVICE UNLAWFUL WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR
VEHICLE ON A PUBLIC STREET, HIGHWAY, OR PUBLIC VEHICULAR AREA
UNLESS HANDS-FREE EQUIPMENT IS USED BY THE OPERATOR.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known as the "Brian Garlock Act."

SECTION 2. G.S. 20-137.3, 20-137.4, and 20-137.4A are repealed.

SECTION 3. Article 3 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
a new section to read:

"§ 20-137.3A. Unlawful use of a mobile telephone or electronic communication device.

(a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Electronic communication device. – Any electronic device other than a mobile telephone that is capable of providing data communication between two or more persons, including a personal digital assistant, an electronic device with mobile data access, a laptop computer, a pager, a smartwatch, a broadband personal communication device, a two-way messaging device, an electronic game, and a portable computing device. This term does not include equipment installed and used in a motor vehicle for the purposes of (i) providing emergency assistance, information, or other services to the person operating the motor vehicle or (ii) providing video entertainment to the passengers in the rear seats of a motor vehicle.

(2) Emergency situation. – Circumstances such as medical concerns, unsafe road conditions, matters of public safety, or mechanical problems that create a risk of harm for the operator or passengers of a motor vehicle or school bus.

(3) Hands-free equipment. – An internal feature or function of a mobile telephone or electronic communication device, or an attachment or addition to a mobile telephone or electronic communication device, whether or not permanently part of the mobile telephone or electronic communication device, by which a person uses a mobile telephone or electronic communication device without the use of either hand. This term includes equipment physically or electronically integrated into a motor vehicle that allows a person to use a mobile telephone or electronic communication device without the use of either hand. This term does not include a computer

- Heighten awareness that distracted driving is dangerous
- Create a disincentive to engage in the behavior
- Appropriate penalty
- Insurance consequence
- Reasonable application
- What can get passed





Georgia News

Report: GA Hands-Free Law decreases traffic fatalities, insurance claims

By: WSAV Staff 

Posted: Oct 15, 2018 12:34 PM EDT

Updated: Oct 15, 2018 06:57 PM EDT



ATLANTA - Following the start of Georgia's Hands-Free Law in July, officials say traffic fatalities, crashes and insurance claims are down in the state.

As of September 30, traffic crash fatalities are down 11 percent year to date, which is the largest decrease of Georgia traffic fatalities in 10 years. In addition, reports say there have been 128 fewer fatalities in 2018 over 2017, year to date.

Aren't there other distractions than just using mobile phone while driving?

- Sure, but enforcement and practicality make addressing those difficult (a ban on children saying 'are we there yet?'). IIANC supports at least addressing this part of the distracted driving problem.

Won't self-driving cars eliminate the need for 'hands-free?'

- Perhaps, but autonomous cars are likely to take two decades or longer to be the norm – let's make our roads safer until that time.

Is this just another instance of government being the 'nanny state?'

- We must balance personal freedom with public safety (especially when something has the real potential to cause harm to an innocent person), but in this instance there is an economic benefit from having fewer accidents, injuries and fatalities.

Why do insurance agents care about this?

- Practically, anything that helps decrease accidents and injuries keeps the cost of insurance from becoming too costly for families – but, frankly independent insurance agents are very community focused, and their customers tend to be their friends, neighbors and family meaning highway safety is as much a personal issue as a professional one.

Does IIANC has a specific proposal that it will pursue in 2019?

- We are working with IIANC member state Representative Kevin Corbin, and Senators Jim Burgin, Todd Johnson and Vickie Sawyer on the specific legislation for introduction in the 2019 Session – IIANC supports a ‘hands-free’ law in whatever language is needed to accomplish that.

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