A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	SECTI	ON 1. Chapter 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is	
2	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated		
3	and to read as follows:		
4	" <u>§291</u>	- Text messaging prohibited; penalty. (a) Except	
5	as provide	d in subsection (b), no person shall operate a motor	
6	vehicle up	on any public highway while simultaneously sending,	
7	reading, o	r writing a text message on an electronic wireless	
8	communications device including a wireless telephone.		
9	(b)	This section shall not apply to a person:	
10	(1)	Operating an authorized emergency vehicle;	
11	(2)	Operating a voice-activated global positioning or	
12		navigation system that is permanently affixed to the	
13		vehicle;	
14	(3)	Making a telephone call on a wireless telephone or a	
15		telephone permanently affixed to the vehicle; or	
16	(4)	Text messaging to:	
17		(A) Report illegal activity to law enforcement	
18		authorities;	



1	<u>(B)</u>	Summon medical or other emergency assistance;
2	(C)	Prevent injury to a person or damage to property;
3		<u>or</u>
4	<u>(D)</u>	Relay information between a transit or for-hire
5		operator and that operator's dispatcher, in which
6		the device is permanently affixed to the vehicle.
7	(c) A pe	rson who violates this section shall be fined not
8	less than \$	nor more than \$ for each separate
9	offense."	
10	SECTION 2	. New statutory material is underscored.
11	SECTION 3	. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
12		
		INTRODUCED BY: 15:16 Caldwell

JAN 1 5 2008

functions

Report Title:

Traffic Violations; Text Messaging; Transportation

Description:

Prohibits text messaging while operating a motor vehicle. Provides fine for violation of the prohibition.

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