

Cell Phone Use While Driving - Laws by State

STATE	BANNED	NOTES
Alabama	No	
Alaska	No	
Arkansas	Partial	School bus drivers are banned
Arizona	Partial	A bill to introduce a ban was lost by a 4-3 vote in the Senate Transportation Committee; Bus drivers are banned
California	No	Bill to introduce ban failed Feb 1998 - car rental companies required to offer guidance on cell phone use; New study requested from Jan 2002 but failed to move from the Assembly Transportation Committee
Colorado	No	Bill to introduce ban failed January 2000; Bill proposed January 2005 to ban learner drivers
Connecticut	Partial	School bus drivers are banned; Bill being debated in May 2005
Delaware	No	A driver can already be prosecuted for "inattentive driving," which can include using a cell phone; Studies into the issue have been requested
District of Columbia	Yes	Banned from July 2004
Florida	Partial	In July 2001, State Attorney General said that cities can set local regulations; Overturned by Governor Bush
Georgia	Partial	School bus drivers are banned from using cell phones while driving
Hawaii	In debate	A bill introduced by Sen. Joseph Souki being debated
Idaho	No	
Illinois	Partial	School bus drivers are banned; Chicago has bill banning driving while using a phone, fines from \$50 per infraction
Indiana	No	Ban proposed January 2004 by Sen. Rose Antich Carr
Iowa	In debate	
Kansas	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in 2000
Kentucky	No	
Louisiana	In debate	Study into the effects of a ban underway
Maine	Partial	Minors and those on learner driving licenses may not use a cell phone while driving
Maryland	No	Bill to ban dropped February 2001; New proposal in the House, proposed by Delegates Arnick and Mandel
Massachusetts	Partial	Bill for most users pending but bus drivers already banned; Drivers required to keep at least one hand on the steering wheel while holding a phone
Michigan	No	
Minnesota	Partial	Teenagers and provisional drivers are banned
Mississippi	No	Legislation prevents local councils enacting their own ban
Missouri	No	
Montana	No	
Nebraska	No	Bill planned by State Sen. Jim Cudaback, January 2004
Nevada	No	State bill to introduce ban failed April 1999; Local bill in Clark County blocked Nov. 2001; Passed state bill banning local regulations in March 2003
New Hampshire	Partial	Not explicitly banned, but you can be prosecuted if using a cell phone when involved in an driving accident
New Jersey	Yes	Banned from July 2004; fines up to \$250
New Mexico	Partial	Being debated - local ban in the city of Santa Fe
New York	Yes	Ban in effective since November 2001
North Carolina	In debate	Study into the effects of cell phone usage while driving being carried out
North Dakota	In debate	Bill proposed by Sen. Harvey Tallackson, D-Grafton, February 2005
Ohio	Partial	City of Cleveland is discussing a ban; Ban in place in Brooklyn
Oklahoma	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in May 1999; Legislation prevents local councils enacting their own ban
Oregon	No	A bill enacted in January 2002 forbids local governments from implementing their own cell phone ban
Pennsylvania	Partial	Local cities have their own laws; state legislation pending
Rhode Island	Partial	School bus drivers are banned; Proposal for a ban being debated April 2004
South Carolina	No	
South Dakota	No	
Tennessee	Partial	School buses are banned from using a cell phone
Texas	No	Bill proposed for 2005 by Rodney Ellis and fellow Democrat Rep. Jose Menendez of San Antonio
Utah	No	Bill to introduce ban failed March 1998; Highland city planning a ban - Feb 2005
Vermont	No	
Virginia	Partial	Bill to ban school bus drivers failed in Dec. 1998; Passed a bill in August 2001 to study impact on safety by the use of a cell phone while driving; Bill banning minors passed January 2005
Washington	No	Bill to introduce ban failed Jan 2001; new laws proposed Q1 2005
West Virginia	No	Bill proposed in 1999 but never debated
Wisconsin	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in April 1998; Bill to ban younger drivers only being debated
Wyoming	No	Bill proposed by Rep. Floyd Esquibel but not debated
National	In debate	Bills being debated in the Federal government that will override local legislation

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