

Proposed Alabama texting ban makes a move forward

On behalf of Johnston, Moore & Thompson posted in Car Accidents

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It was almost two months ago already when we included a post suggesting that 2012 might be the year for texting while driving to be banned in Alabama. Safety efforts to curb distracted driving accidents have spread throughout the country, and now local safety advocates continue their fight to make Alabama roads safer from the recklessness of texting behind the wheel.

According to reports, on Tuesday this week the proposal to ban texting and reading texts behind the wheel passed successfully, with a unanimous vote, through the Alabama House. That means that it's one step closer to potentially becoming Alabama traffic law, though it needs the approval of the Senate next.

Will the history of other similar distracted driving bills repeat itself this time around? An anti-texting bill passed in the House last year but then failed to move through the Senate. But a year can make a big difference, and some who voted against the bill last year are voting differently this session, speaking out against the distracted driving that they've witnessed on the roads.

If this anti-texting bill becomes law, drivers can be fined for texting or reading a text while operating a motor vehicle. That includes times when a driver is sitting at a red light. The point that anti-texting proponents want to make is that responsible and safe driving has to be a driver's priority.

A text message for or from a friend can wait until a driver gets to his destination. It's best to learn that now, before someone causes a distracted driving accident and, therefore, learns that the hard way.

Source

Tuscaloosaneews.com: "Alabama House passes bill that bans texting while driving, 92-0," Bob Johnson, Feb. 22, 2012

Tags: Car Accidents, Distracted Driving, Texting While Driving