

Subject Electronic content display in vehicles

Authors Stier and others

Analyst Matt Burress

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Summary

This bill modernizes and broadens a prohibition on operating a motor vehicle while an electronic display of video or other graphical content is visible to the operator. A violation is a petty misdemeanor.

The prohibition is on display of dynamic electronic content (such as video, video conferencing, or graphically changing material) from electronic devices (like a cell phone, tablet, or laptop) as well as the vehicle's installed infotainment system, for content that is visible to the vehicle operator while the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic.

Some forms of content from the vehicle's infotainment system are not restricted, including information related to vehicle operation, condition, or navigation. The bill establishes various exceptions, such as use in authorized emergency vehicles for official duties, video used to aid the driver's visibility out of the vehicle, use of a dedicated global position system for navigation, and use of a wireless communications device used as authorized under a similar state statute on electronic messaging (i.e., the "hands free" law).