

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Monday, March 1, 2010

House Bill No. 2957

HOUSE BILL NO. 2957 - By: WRIGHT (HAROLD) of the House and SCHULZ of the Senate.

An Act relating to motor vehicles; prohibiting public transit drivers from using certain devices while operating motor vehicles; prescribing penalties; providing definitions; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma  
2 Statutes as Section 11-901c of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in  
3 numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. It shall be unlawful for a public transit driver to operate a motor vehicle on any  
5 street or highway within this state while using a cellular telephone or electronic  
6 communication device to write, send, or read a text-based communication while the  
7 motor vehicle is in motion.

8 B. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection A of this section shall, upon  
9 conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of Five Hundred Dollars  
10 (\$500.00).

11 C. As used in this section:

1           1. “Cellular telephone” means an analog or digital wireless telephone authorized by  
2 the Federal Communications Commission to operate in the frequency bandwidth  
3 reserved for cellular telephones;

4           2. “Electronic communication device” means an electronic device that permits the  
5 user to manually transmit a communication of written text by means other than through  
6 an oral transfer or wire communication. This term does not include a voice-activated  
7 global positioning or navigation system that is affixed to a motor vehicle; and

8           3. “Public transit driver” means:

9           a.       any operator of a public transit vehicle owned and operated by the  
10                   State of Oklahoma, any public trust authority, county, municipality,  
11                   town or city within this state,

12           b.       any operator of a school bus or multi-passenger motor vehicle owned  
13                   and approved to operate by the State Department of Education or any  
14                   school district within this state, or

15           c.       any operator, conductor or driver of a locomotive engine, railway car or  
16                   train of cars.

17           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

18           COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, dated 02-25-10 - DO  
19           PASS, As Coauthored.