

27:1A-5.19

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2001 **CHAPTER:** 161
NJSA: 27:1A-5.19 (Cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents)
BILL NO: S1867 (Substituted for A2487)

SPONSORS: Bennett and Bark

DATE INTRODUCED: November 9, 2000

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** ----

SENATE: Law and Public Safety

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** May 24, 2001

SENATE: May 14, 2001

DATE OF APPROVAL: July 17, 2001

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (1st reprint enacted)

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

S1867

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of original bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A2487

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of original bill) Yes

Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S1867

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: Yes

Identical to Senate Statement for S1867

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:

Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:

Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

No

JOURNAL ARTICLE CITED IN STATEMENTS

Yes

"Association between cellular telephone calls and motor vehicle collisions," :New England Journal of Medicine, 336,

#7. pp.453+

SENATE, No. 1867

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 9, 2000

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN O. BENNETT

District 12 (Monmouth)

Senator MARTHA W. BARK

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
8 annually compile and make available to the public information
9 submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-
10 131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in
11 traffic accidents. The report shall note whether a cellular telephone
12 was present in a motor vehicle involved in an accident and whether the
13 operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when the
14 accident occurred.

15
16 2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

17 39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police
18 departments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports
19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
20 vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the
21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L.1984, c.179
22 (C.39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, whether a cellular telephone was present in
24 the vehicle and whether the operator of the vehicle was using a cellular
25 telephone at the time of the accident, and such other information as the
26 director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of
39 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
40 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
41 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the
42 administrative costs of the report.

43 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be
2 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
3 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).
4 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)

5

6 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

7

8

9

STATEMENT

10

11 This bill is intended to provide factual information regarding the use
12 of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in traffic accidents.
13 It would require the Commissioner of Transportation to annually
14 compile and make available to the public information on the presence
15 and use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in accidents.

16 The bill requires that the Division of Motor Vehicles modify the
17 traffic accident report forms it supplies to police departments to
18 provide this information. The modified form would include entries
19 indicating whether a cellular telephone was present in the motor
20 vehicle and whether the driver was using it when the accident
21 occurred.

22 Research indicates the use of cellular telephones while driving
23 increases the chance of an automobile accident. Use of a cell phone
24 significantly increases the probability of an accident, even when the
25 driver is using a hands-free model, according to a study published in
26 the New England Journal of Medicine.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1867

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 15, 2001

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1867.

This bill is intended to provide factual information regarding the use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in traffic accidents. It would require the Commissioner of Transportation to annually compile and make available to the public information on the use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in accidents.

As amended and released by the committee, the bill requires that the Division of Motor Vehicles modify the traffic accident report forms it supplies to police departments to provide this information. The modified form would include entries indicating whether the driver was using a cellular telephone when the accident occurred.

According to the sponsor's statement, research indicates the use of cellular telephones while driving increases the chance of an automobile accident. The sponsor's statement further notes that use of a cell phone significantly increases the probability of an accident, even when the driver is using a hands-free model, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

As introduced, the bill required the accident report form to note whether cellular telephone was present in the motor vehicle when the accident occurred. The committee amendments remove that provision. The committee also amended the effective date of the bill.

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1867

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 9, 2000

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN O. BENNETT

District 12 (Monmouth)

Senator MARTHA W. BARK

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

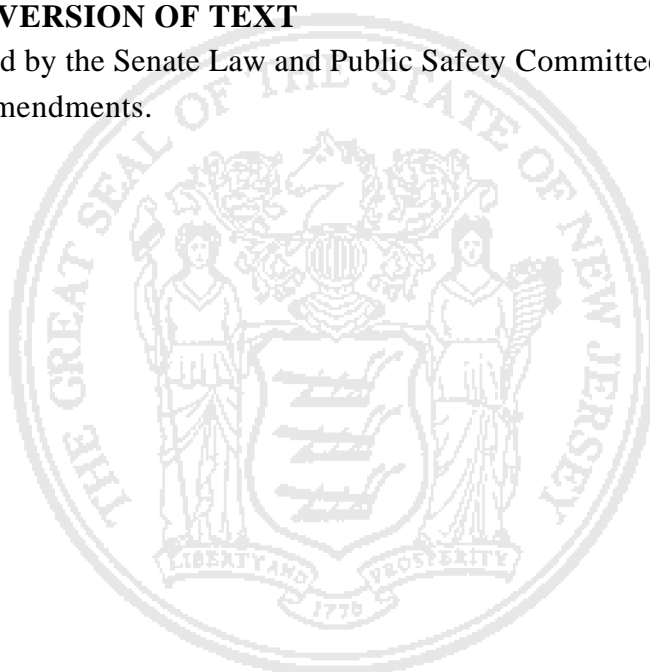
**Senator Baer, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Bateman, Biondi, Barnes,
Assemblywomen Greenstein, Heck and Assemblyman Guear**

SYNOPSIS

Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on March 15, 2001, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2001)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
8 annually compile and make available to the public information
9 submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-
10 131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in
11 traffic accidents. The report shall note ¹[whether a cellular telephone
12 was present in a motor vehicle involved in an accident and]¹ whether
13 the operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when
14 the accident occurred.

15
16 2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

17 39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police
18 departments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports
19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
20 vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the
21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L.1984, c.179
22 (C.39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, ¹[whether a cellular telephone was present
24 in the vehicle and]¹ whether the operator of the vehicle was using a
25 cellular telephone ¹[at the time of] when¹ the accident¹ occurred¹,
26 and such other information as the director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of
39 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
40 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
41 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SLP committee amendments adopted March 15, 2001.

1 administrative costs of the report.

2 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary
3 notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be
4 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
5 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).

6 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)

7

8 3. This act shall take effect ¹[immediately] on January 1, 2002¹.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2487

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2000

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Biondi and Barnes

SYNOPSIS

Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
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19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
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21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L. 1984, c. 179
22 (C. 39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, whether a cellular telephone was present in
24 the vehicle and whether the operator of the vehicle was using a cellular
25 telephone at the time of the accident, and such other information as the
26 director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of
39 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
40 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
41 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the
42 administrative costs of the report.

43 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary

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2 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
3 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).
4 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)

5
6 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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9 STATEMENT

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11 This bill is intended to provide factual information regarding the use
12 of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in traffic accidents.
13 It would require the Commissioner of Transportation to annually
14 compile and make available to the public information on the presence
15 and use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in accidents.

16 The bill requires that the Division of Motor Vehicles modify the
17 traffic accident report forms it supplies to police departments to
18 provide this information. The modified form would include entries
19 indicating whether a cellular telephone was present in the motor
20 vehicle and whether the driver was using it when the accident
21 occurred.

22 Research indicates the use of cellular telephones while driving
23 increases the chance of an automobile accident. Use of a cell phone
24 significantly increases the probability of an accident, even when the
25 driver is using a hands-free model, according to a study published in
26 the New England Journal of Medicine.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2487

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 16, 2000

The Assembly Transportation Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2487.

This bill is intended to provide factual information regarding the use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in traffic accidents. It would require the Commissioner of Transportation to annually compile and make available to the public information on the presence and use of cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in accidents.

The bill requires that the Division of Motor Vehicles modify the traffic accident report forms it supplies to police departments to provide this information. The modified form would include entries indicating whether a cellular telephone was present in the motor vehicle and whether the driver was using it when the accident occurred.

According to the sponsor's statement, research indicates that the use of a cellular telephone while driving increases the chance of an automobile accident. The sponsor's statement further notes that use of a cell phone significantly increases the probability of an accident, even when the driver is using a hands-free model, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The committee amended the bill to provide that the effective date of the bill would be July 1, 2001.

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2487

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2000

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

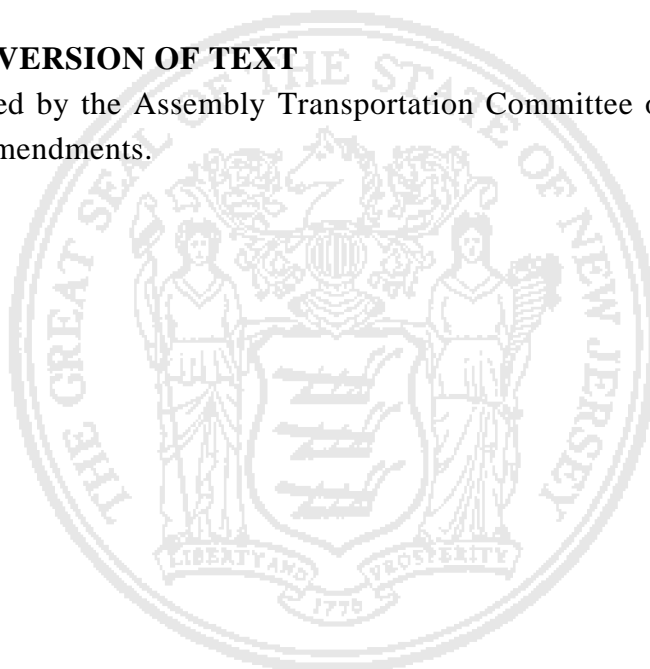
Assemblymen Biondi, Barnes, Assemblywomen Greenstein and Heck

SYNOPSIS

Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Transportation Committee on October 16, 2000, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/11/2001)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
8 annually compile and make available to the public information
9 submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-
10 131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in
11 traffic accidents. The report shall note whether a cellular telephone
12 was present in a motor vehicle involved in an accident and whether the
13 operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when the
14 accident occurred.

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16 2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

17 39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police
18 departments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports
19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
20 vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the
21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L. 1984, c. 179
22 (C. 39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, whether a cellular telephone was present in
24 the vehicle and whether the operator of the vehicle was using a cellular
25 telephone at the time of the accident, and such other information as the
26 director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of
39 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
40 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
41 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the
42 administrative costs of the report.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ATR committee amendments adopted October 16, 2000.

1 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary
2 notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be
3 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
4 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).
5 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)
6
7 3. This act shall take effect ¹[immediately] on July 1, 2001¹.

STATEMENT TO
[First Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 2487

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed By Assemblymen WISNIEWSKI and BATEMAN)

ADOPTED: MAY 10, 2001

These amendments remove a provision in the bill that the accident report form supplied by the Division of Motor Vehicles to police departments and other suitable agencies note whether a cellular telephone was present in a motor vehicle when an accident occurred. However, the bill would still require that the accident report note whether the operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when an accident occurred.

The amendments also change the date on which the act would take effect.

These amendments make this bill identical to Senate, No. 1867 (1R).

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2487

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 2000

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

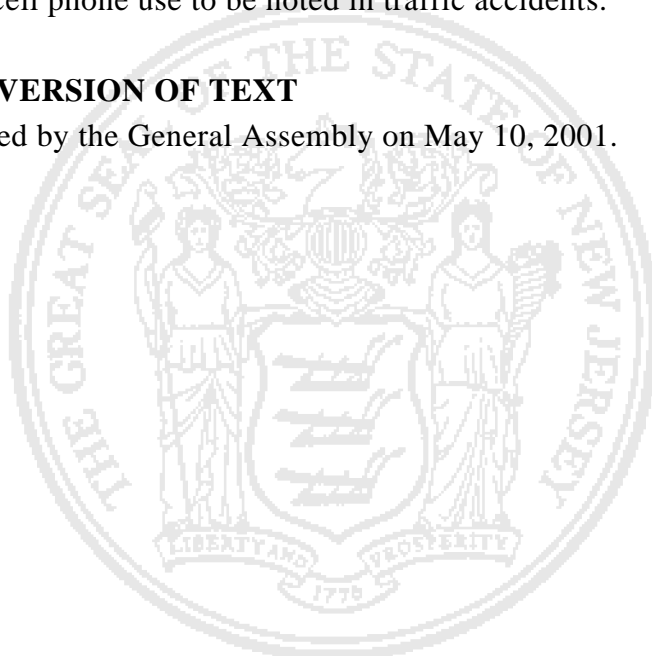
**Assemblymen Biondi, Barnes, Assemblywomen Greenstein, Heck and
Assemblyman Gear**

SYNOPSIS

Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the General Assembly on May 10, 2001.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2001)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
8 annually compile and make available to the public information
9 submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-
10 131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in
11 traffic accidents. The report shall note ²[whether a cellular telephone
12 was present in a motor vehicle involved in an accident and]² whether
13 the operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when
14 the accident occurred.

15
16 2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

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19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
20 vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the
21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L.1984, c.179
22 (C.39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, ²[whether a cellular telephone was present
24 in the vehicle and]² whether the operator of the vehicle was using a
25 cellular telephone ²[at the time of] when² the accident ²occurred²,
26 and such other information as the director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of
39 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
40 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
41 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ATR committee amendments adopted October 16, 2000.

² Assembly floor amendments adopted May 10, 2001.

1 administrative costs of the report.

2 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary
3 notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be
4 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
5 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).

6 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)

7

8 3. This act shall take effect ¹[immediately] on ²[July 1, 2001¹]
9 January 1, 2002².

P.L. 2001, CHAPTER 161, *approved July 17, 2001*
Senate, No. 1867 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter
2 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. (New section) The Commissioner of Transportation shall
8 annually compile and make available to the public information
9 submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-
10 131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in
11 traffic accidents. The report shall note ¹[whether a cellular telephone
12 was present in a motor vehicle involved in an accident and]¹ whether
13 the operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when
14 the accident occurred.

15

16 2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

17 39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police
18 departments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports
19 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor
20 vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the
21 persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L.1984, c.179
22 (C.39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles
23 involved in the accident, ¹[whether a cellular telephone was present
24 in the vehicle and]¹ whether the operator of the vehicle was using a
25 cellular telephone ¹[at the time of] when¹ the accident ¹occurred¹,
26 and such other information as the director may require.

27 Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident
28 of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who
29 otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or
30 thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward
31 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by
32 it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

33 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement
34 officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged
35 or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right,
36 during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and
37 copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase
38 copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SLP committee amendments adopted March 15, 2001.

1 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other
2 than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages
3 and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the
4 administrative costs of the report.

5 The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary
6 notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be
7 subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section
8 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).
9 (cf: P.L.1987, c.26, s.1)

10

11 3. This act shall take effect ¹**[immediately]** on January 1, 2002¹.

12

13

14

15

16 Requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.

CHAPTER 161

AN ACT concerning motor vehicle accidents, supplementing chapter 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.39:4-131.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.27:1A-5.19 Report of motor vehicle accidents involving cellular telephone use.

1. The Commissioner of Transportation shall annually compile and make available to the public information submitted to the Division of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to R.S.39:4-131, concerning cellular telephones in motor vehicles involved in traffic accidents. The report shall note whether the operator of the motor vehicle was using a cellular telephone when the accident occurred.

2. R.S.39:4-131 is amended to read as follows:

Accident reports.

39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police departments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a motor vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then existing, the persons and vehicles involved, the compliance with P.L.1984, c.179 (C.39:3-76.2e et seq.) by the operators and passengers of the vehicles involved in the accident, whether the operator of the vehicle was using a cellular telephone when the accident occurred, and such other information as the director may require.

Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who otherwise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or thereafter by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished by it, within five days after his investigation of the accident.

Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforcement officers and the information contained therein shall not be privileged or held confidential. Every citizen of this State shall have the right, during regular business hours and under supervision, to inspect and copy such reports and shall also have the right in person to purchase copies of the reports at the same fee established by section 2 of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-2). If copies of reports are requested other than in person, an additional fee of up to \$5.00 for the first three pages and \$1.00 per page thereafter may be added to cover the administrative costs of the report.

The provisions of any other law or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding, reports obtained pursuant to this act shall not be subject to confidentiality requirements except as provided by section 28 of P.L.1960, c.52 (C.2A:84A-28).

3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2002

Approved July 17, 2001.

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TRENTON, NJ 08625

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

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RELEASE: July 17 , 2001

Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco signed the following legislation today:

A-190/SCS for S-1051, sponsored by Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Mercer) and Assemblyman Leonard Lance (R-Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer) and Senator Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Senator Shirley Tuner (D-Mercer), permits a state employee's salary reduction program for qualified transportation benefits and increases the Travel Demand Management Program gross income tax exclusions for commuter transportation benefits.

A-2460/S-1267, sponsored by Assemblyman Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Assemblyman Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Senator Henry McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic), authorizes North Jersey district water supply commission to participate in certain flood protection projects; requires state to indemnify commission.

A-3235/S-2433, sponsored by Assemblyman Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Assemblyman Joe Doria (D-Hudson) and Senator Andrew Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean), establishes organ donor license plates.

S-1078/A-2249, sponsored by Senator Robert Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assemblyman Joseph Malone (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean), requires the Department of Community Affairs to establish procedures for electronic tax lien sales by municipalities.

S-1867/A-2487, sponsored by Senator Martha Bark (D-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden) and Senator John Bennett (R-Monmouth) and Assemblyman Christopher Bateman (R-Morris/Somerset) and Assemblyman John Wisniewski (D-Middlesex), requires cell phone use to be noted in traffic accidents.