

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 477

By Hazlewood

A RESOLUTION to join with the members of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as they commemorate April 2019 as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month."

WHEREAS, Tennessee ranks first in the nation for deaths due to distracted driving, with 166 deaths reported over a two-year time period, and has a rate of distracted driving accidents that is five times higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, nationally, at least 3,450 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2016, and that same year, 562 pedestrians and bicyclists were killed in distraction-affected crashes; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving is defined as any distraction that takes a driver's eyes off the road, hands off the wheel, or mind off the task of driving; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has designated April as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month" in an effort to remind drivers that looking away for a moment is all it takes to cause a crash and alter lives forever; and

WHEREAS, motorists are urged to turn off electronic devices and put them out of reach before beginning to drive, serve as positive role models for young drivers, speak up if the driver uses an electronic device, and always wear their seat belts; and

WHEREAS, additionally, pedestrians and bicyclists are urged to focus on their surroundings instead of their electronic devices; and

WHEREAS, "Distracted Driving Awareness Month" reminds us all that no text or call is worth a life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we join with the members of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as they commemorate April 2019 as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.