

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## Juneau

State Capitol Bldg. Rm 422  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
Phone (907) 465-4930  
Fax (907) 465-3834  
1-800-331-4930



## Anchorage

716 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone (907) 269-0174  
Fax (907) 269-0177

## **Representative Berta Gardner**

*House District 24*

To: Representative Carl Gatto  
House Judiciary Committee, Chair

From: Representative Berta Gardner

Date: March 2, 2012

Re: Hearing Request for CSHB 128 (TRA)

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I am respectfully requesting that Committee Substitute for House Bill 128, "An Act relating to prohibiting the use of cellular telephones by minors when driving a motor vehicle; and providing for an effective date" be scheduled for a hearing in the House State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience.

During a minor's first years of driving, it is crucial for them to develop safe and responsible driving habits. Studies have shown that the highest accident and mortality rate for vehicle accidents are among teenagers. Between 2002 and 2008 there were 399 traffic accidents involving cell phones on Alaskan roads. This makes up one-third of all crashes involving cell phones. By limiting minors' opportunity to use a cellular phone while driving, Alaska can see a decline in the numbers of accidents and fatalities.

Included in this packet:

- HB 128
- CSHB 128 (TRA)
- Explanation of Changes
- TRA Committee Report
- Sponsor Statement
- Backup Information
- Letters of Support

If necessary, other backup will be forthcoming. Please contact my staffer Noah Hanson at 465-4068 or [Noah\\_Hanson@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Noah_Hanson@legis.state.ak.us) with any questions.