

HOUSE BILL NO. 12

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES GRUENBERG, LYNN, GARDNER, AND MCGUIRE, Ramras, Gara, Elkins

Introduced: 1/10/05

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to televisions and monitors in motor vehicles."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 28.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 28.35.161. Operation of a motor vehicle while watching a television**
5 **or a monitor; installation of televisions and monitors in motor vehicles.** (a) A
6 person may not drive a motor vehicle while watching a television receiver, a video
7 monitor, a television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually displaying
8 a television broadcast or video signal that is located in the vehicle and that produces
9 entertainment or business applications.

10 (b) A person may not install in a motor vehicle a television receiver, a video
11 monitor, a television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually displaying
12 a television broadcast or video signal that produces entertainment or business
13 applications that is capable of being viewed by the driver of the motor vehicle while
14 the motor vehicle is moving. An interlock or other mechanism that removes power
15 from the unit while the motor vehicle is in motion meets the requirements of this

1 subsection.

2 (c) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to the following
3 equipment when installed in a motor vehicle:

4 (1) a vehicle information display;

5 (2) a Global Positioning System display;

6 (3) a mapping display;

7 (4) a visual display used to enhance or supplement the driver's view
8 forward, behind, or to the sides of a motor vehicle for the purpose of maneuvering the
9 vehicle;

10 (5) a television receiver, video monitor, television or video screen, or
11 any other similar means of visually displaying a television broadcast or video signal if
12 that equipment has an interlock device that, when the motor vehicle is driven, disables
13 the equipment for all uses except as a visual display as described in (1) - (4) of this
14 subsection.

15 (d) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to a mobile digital
16 terminal installed in an authorized emergency vehicle or to a motor vehicle providing
17 emergency road service or roadside assistance.

18 (e) A person who violates (a) of this section is guilty of a

19 (1) class A misdemeanor;

20 (2) class C felony if as a result of that violation another person suffers
21 a physical injury;

22 (3) class B felony if as a result of that violation another person suffers
23 serious physical injury;

24 (4) class A felony if as a result of that violation another person suffers
25 death.

26 (f) A person who violates (b) of this section is guilty of a class A
27 misdemeanor and may only be punished by imposition of a fine of not less than
28 \$2,500 and not more than \$10,000.