

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 12(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/18/05

Referred: Judiciary, Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES GRUENBERG, LYNN, GARDNER AND MCGUIRE, Ramras, Gara,
Elkins

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to televisions, monitors, portable computers, and similar devices in**
2 **motor vehicles."**

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

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

5 **Sec. 28.35.161. Driving a motor vehicle while watching a television,**
6 **monitor, or similar device; installation of televisions, monitors, and similar**
7 **devices in motor vehicles.** (a) A person may not drive a motor vehicle while
8 watching a

9 (1) television receiver, a video monitor, laptop type portable
10 computer, a television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually
11 displaying a television broadcast or video signal that is located in the vehicle
12 and that produces entertainment or business applications; or

13 (2) device that is visible to or is intended to be viewed by the
14 driver and that would visually distract the driver, excluding devices used in the

1 operation of the vehicle.

2 (b) A person may not install in a motor vehicle a television receiver, a video
3 monitor, a television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually displaying
4 a television broadcast or video signal that produces entertainment or business
5 applications that is capable of being viewed by the driver of the motor vehicle while
6 the motor vehicle is moving. A device that disables the unit while the motor vehicle is
7 in motion meets the requirements of this subsection.

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

10 (1) a vehicle information display;

11 (2) a navigation or global positioning display;

12 (3) a mapping display;

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

16 (5) a television receiver, video monitor, television or video screen, or
17 any other similar means of visually displaying a television broadcast or video signal if
18 that equipment has a device that, when the motor vehicle is driven, disables the
19 equipment for all uses except as a visual display as described in (1) - (4) of this
20 subsection.

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

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

25 (1) class A misdemeanor;

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

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

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

1 (f) A person who violates (b) of this section is guilty of a class A
2 misdemeanor and may only be punished by imposition of a fine of not less than
3 \$2,500 and not more than \$10,000.