

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 12(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/3/06

Referred: Rules

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

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to driver's licenses and to televisions, monitors, portable computers,
2 and similar devices in motor vehicles; and providing for an effective date."

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 with a television, monitor, or**
6 **similar device operating; unlawful installation of television, monitor, or similar**

7 **device.** (a) A person commits the crime of driving with a screen operating if

8 (1) the person is driving the motor vehicle;

9 (2) the vehicle has a television, video monitor, portable computer, or
10 any other similar means to create a visual display visible to the person while the
11 person is driving the motor vehicle; and

12 (3) the monitor or visual display is operating while the person is
13 driving.

14 (b) A person may not install or alter equipment described in (a)(2) of this

1 section that allows the display to be visible to the driver while the driver is driving the
2 motor vehicle.

3 (c) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to

4 (1) portable cellular telephones; or

5 (2) equipment that displays only

6 (A) audio equipment information, functions, and controls;

7 (B) vehicle information or controls related to speed, fuel level,
8 battery charge, and other vehicle safety or equipment information;

9 (C) navigation or global positioning;

10 (D) maps; or

11 (E) visual information to enhance or supplement the driver's
12 view forward, behind, or to the sides of the motor vehicle for the purpose of
13 maneuvering the vehicle.

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

17 (e) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under (b) of this section that
18 the equipment installed or altered also includes a device that, when the motor vehicle
19 is being driven, disables the equipment for all uses except those described in (c) of this
20 section.

21 (f) A person who violates (a) of this section is guilty of

22 (1) a class A misdemeanor, unless any of the circumstances described
23 in (2) - (4) of this subsection apply;

24 (2) a class C felony if the person's driving causes physical injury to
25 another person;

26 (3) a class B felony if the person's driving causes serious physical
27 injury to another person;

28 (4) a class A felony if the person's driving causes the death of another
29 person.

30 (g) A person who violates (b) of this section is guilty of a class A
31 misdemeanor.

1 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
2 read:

3 **DIRECTION TO DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES.** The division of motor
4 vehicles shall supply to each person issued a new, duplicate, or temporary driver's license
5 information about the requirements and restrictions being added by sec. 1 of this Act. This
6 requirement shall continue until the information is included in the driver's manual that is
7 published from time to time by division of motor vehicles.

8 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect September 1, 2006.