



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: January 9, 2019

Item Number: _____
Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Recognizing April 2019 As California's Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that more than nine people are killed and more than 1,000 are injured every day due to "distracted driving," defined as driving while doing another activity; and

Whereas, distracted driving due to electronic devices rose in 2018. More specifically, a rate of 4.52% was found which was up from 3.58% in 2017; and

Whereas, in 2016, more than 54% of California drivers surveyed said they had been hit or nearly hit by a driver who was talking or texting on a cell phone and nearly 40% of drivers admitted to making a mistake while talking on a cell phone; and

Whereas, the National Safety Council has noted that using a cell phone while driving makes it four times as likely that a driver will crash even if they are using a hands-free device; and

Whereas, 10% of all drivers under the age of 20 who were involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash; and

Whereas, texting and driving is six times more likely to cause an accident than drunk driving; and

Whereas, engaging in visual-manual subtasks, such as reaching for a phone, dialing or texting, increases the risk of getting into a crash by three times; and

Whereas, both handheld or hands-free cell phone conversations while driving are risky because the distraction to the brain remains; and

Whereas, other serious driver distractions such as eating, grooming, reading, reaching for objects on the floor, changing clothes or talking with passengers are just as dangerous and can result in a "reckless driving" or "speed unsafe for conditions" ticket;

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and

Whereas, the Sonoma County Safe Streets Coalition and its law enforcement partners continue to be committed to reducing the number of traffic deaths and injuries throughout the county by educating motorists and raising awareness of dangerous driving behaviors.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognizes the dangers of driving while distracted and proclaims April 2019 as California's Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Zane:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.