



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

2021

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, distracted driving is any non-driving activity that takes your eyes off the road, hands off the wheel or interrupts your concentration while driving that increases the risk of crashing; and

WHEREAS, distractions can be visual, manual, or cognitive, and drivers who use handheld devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves; and

WHEREAS, driving while using a cell phone reduces brain activity associated with driving by 37 percent; and

WHEREAS, text messaging, browsing, and dialing results in a driver taking their eyes off the road for an average of 23.3 seconds, a duration of time that doubles the risk of a crash or near-crash; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, 154 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina involving distracted drivers, a one percent increase from the year before; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, approximately 23,467 were injured in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina involving distracted drivers, down slightly from the 24,178 people who were injured in 2018; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina law bans all cell phone use, both handheld and hands-free, for bus drivers and all drivers under the age of 18 years old, and bans texting and emailing for drivers of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation, Governor's Highway Safety Program, Department of Insurance, Safe Kids North Carolina, and all law enforcement agencies continue to educate the public on the dangers of distracted driving;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2021, as "**DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirty-first day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.