



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

2018

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, takes your hands off the wheel, or interrupts your concentration while driving, and increases the risk of crashing; and

WHEREAS, distractions can be visual, manual, or cognitive, and drivers who use hand held 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 result in a driver taking his or her 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 2017, 152 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina involving distracted drivers, which is a 13 percent decrease from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, approximately 24,946 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes in North Carolina involving distracted drivers, a decrease from the 27,052 people who were injured in 2016; 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, 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, 2018, 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 twenty-ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.