HB 473

2009

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to school bus safety; providing a short
3	title; designating Drowsy Driving Prevention Week;
4	encouraging the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
5	Vehicles and the Department of Transportation to educate
6	the law enforcement community and the public about the
7	relationship between fatigue and driving performance;
, 8	creating s. 316.6152, F.S.; providing definitions;
9	restricting use of mobile telecommunications devices by
10	school bus drivers; providing penalties; providing
11	effective dates.
12	
13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14	
15	Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Ronshay Dugans
16	Act."
17	
18	as "Drowsy Driving Prevention Week" in this state.
19	(2) During Drowsy Driving Prevention Week, the Department
20	of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the Department of
21	Transportation are encouraged to educate the law enforcement
22	community and the public about the relationship between fatigue
23	and performance and the research showing fatigue to be as much
24	of an impairment as alcohol and as dangerous behind the wheel.
25	Section 3. Effective October 1, 2009, section 316.6152,
26	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
27	316.6152 School bus driver; use of mobile
28	telecommunications device

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29	(1) For purposes of this section:
30	(a) "Commercial mobile radio service" has the same meaning
31	<u>as in 47 C.F.R. s. 20.3.</u>
32	(b) "Mobile telecommunications device" means a wireless
33	telephone or other device used to access the services of a
34	commercial mobile radio service for the purpose of sending or
35	receiving voice, text, or other data, including, but not limited
36	to, computer data, electronic mail, electronic messages, games,
37	music, pictures, text, or video. The term "mobile
38	telecommunications device" includes, but is not limited to, a
39	cellular telephone, cellular telephone accessory device,
40	computer, game machine, personal digital assistant, and text
41	messaging device but does not include a pager as defined in 47
42	C.F.R. s. 22.99.
43	(2)(a) A person who is driving or in actual physical
44	control of a public or nonpublic school bus shall not use any
45	mobile telecommunications device.
46	(b) This subsection does not apply:
47	1. When the school bus is stopped and the engine is not
48	running or when the school bus is stopped completely outside the
49	normal flow of traffic; or
50	2. When the person who is driving or in actual physical
51	control of the school bus is using the device to contact one of
52	the following regarding an emergency situation:
53	a. A school administrator.
54	b. A law enforcement agency.
55	c. A firefighting service.
56	d. An emergency communications E911 system service.

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57	e. A hospital or emergency rescue service.
58	(3) A person who violates paragraph (2)(a) commits a
59	misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
60	775.082 or s. 775.083.
61	Section 4. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
62	act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.
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