

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

NO. 9  
Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_ April 21, 2020

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REFERRED TO SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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**Cell Phone Use While Operating a Motor Vehicle**

Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to prohibit the use of handheld mobile telephones while operating a motor vehicle that is in motion upon a public roadway.

Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a section that reads:

§ 3317. Prohibiting use of handheld mobile telephones.

- (1) General rule. No driver shall operate a moving vehicle on a roadway of this Commonwealth, which shall include Federal, State and municipal roadways, while using a handheld mobile telephone.
- (2) Exception. This section shall not apply to law enforcement officers and operators of emergency vehicles when on duty and acting in their official capacities.

- (3) Defense. It shall be an acceptable defense to an action under this section that the driver had reason to fear for the driver's safety, was reporting a traffic accident or was making a 911 emergency call.
- (4) Penalty. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a summary offense with a maximum fine of no more than \$100.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.