

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1433

To amend title 23, United States Code, to improve highway safety and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2015

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BOOK-
ER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to
the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to improve highway
safety and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Driver Safe-
5 ty Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. DISTRACTED DRIVING INCENTIVE GRANTS.**

7 Section 405(e) of title 23, United States Code, is
8 amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “includes distracted driving issues as part of the State’s driver’s license examination and” after “any State that”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) does not provide for an exception that specifically allows a driver to text through a personal wireless communication device while stopped in traffic.”;

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (C);

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (C);

(C) in subparagraph (C)(ii), as redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) does not provide for an exception that specifically allows a driver younger than 18

1 years of age to use a personal wireless commu-
 2 nication device while stopped in traffic.”;

3 (4) in paragraph (4)(C), by striking “section
 4 31152” and inserting “section 31136”;

5 (5) by amending paragraph (6) to read as fol-
 6 lows:

7 “(6) DISTRACTED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT
 8 GRANTS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
 10 use up to 50 percent of the amounts available
 11 for grants under this subsection to award
 12 grants to any State that—

13 “(i) in fiscal year 2016—

14 “(I) has a basic text messaging
 15 statute, as determined by the Sec-
 16 retary, that—

17 “(aa) is applicable to drivers
 18 of all ages; and

19 “(bb) makes violation of the
 20 basic text messaging statute a
 21 primary offense;

22 “(II) participates in the annual
 23 distracted driving law enforcement
 24 mobilization coordinated by the Sec-
 25 retary; and

1 “(III) is otherwise ineligible for a
2 grant under this subsection;

3 “(ii) in fiscal year 2017—

4 “(I) meets the requirements
5 under clause (i);

6 “(II) imposes increased fines for
7 repeat violations; and

8 “(III) has a statute that pro-
9 hibits drivers who are younger than
10 18 years of age from using a personal
11 wireless communications device while
12 driving.

13 “(B) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses
15 (ii) and (iii), amounts received by a State
16 under subparagraph (A) may be used for
17 activities related to the enforcement of dis-
18 tracted driving laws.

19 “(ii) FISCAL YEAR 2016.—In fiscal
20 year 2016, up to 15 percent of the
21 amounts received by a State under sub-
22 paragraph (A) may be used for any eligible
23 project or activity under section 402.

24 “(iii) FISCAL YEAR 2017.—In fiscal
25 year 2017, up to 25 percent of the

1 amounts received by a State under sub-
2 paragraph (A) may be used for any eligible
3 project or activity under section 402.”; and
4 (6) in paragraph (9)(A)(i), by striking “, in-
5 cluding operation while temporarily stationary be-
6 cause of traffic, a traffic light or stop sign, or other-
7 wise”.

8 **SEC. 3. BARRIERS TO DATA COLLECTION REPORT.**

9 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
10 ment of this Act, the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-
11 ministration shall submit a report to the Committee on
12 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the
13 Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
14 Representatives, and the Committee on Transportation
15 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that—

16 (1) identifies any legal and technical barriers to
17 capturing adequate data on the prevalence of wire-
18 less communications devices while driving; and

19 (2) provides recommendations on how to ad-
20 dress such barriers.

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