**South Carolina General Assembly**

120th Session, 2013-2014

**S. 880**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Sheheen

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Companion/Similar bill(s): 459

Introduced in the Senate on January 14, 2014

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Cellphone use while driving

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/17/2013 Senate Prefiled

12/17/2013 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/14/2014 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 57](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\01-14-14.docx))

1/14/2014 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 57](file:///H:\SJ%20Archive\2014\01-14-14.docx))

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/17/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\880_20131217.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56‑1‑55, TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON WHO HOLDS A BEGINNER’S PERMIT OR A RESTRICTED DRIVER’S LICENSE TO DRIVE A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE USING A CELLULAR TELEPHONE OR TEXT MESSAGING DEVICE; AND TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON TO DRIVE A MOTOR VEHICLE THROUGH A SCHOOL ZONE OR HIGHWAY WORK ZONE WHILE USING A CELLULAR TELEPHONE OR TEXT MESSAGING DEVICE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 1, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑1‑55. (A) It is unlawful for a person who holds a beginner’s permit or a restricted driver’s license to drive a motor vehicle while using a cellular telephone or text messaging device.

(B) It is unlawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle through a school zone while using a cellular telephone or text messaging device when the school zone’s warning lights have been activated.

(C) It is unlawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle through a highway work zone, as defined in Section 56-5-1535(B), while using a cellular telephone or text messaging device.

(D) A person who violates a provision contained in this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned not more than thirty days, or fined not more than $500, or both.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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