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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 621

Offered January 12, 2011 Prefiled January 11, 2011

Requesting the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute to study disincentives for cell phone use in motor vehicles. Report.

Patron-May

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, Virginia has passed legislation prohibiting the use of cell phones by holders of provisional driver's licenses (SB 1039, 2007) and the use of cell phones to text while driving (HB 1876, 2009); and

WHEREAS, the use of a cell phone can lead to an increase in the risk of being involved in a crash or near-crash; and

WHEREAS, despite the prohibitions on cell phone use in motor vehicles, drivers are still using these devices in their vehicles; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute be requested to study disincentives for cell phone use in motor vehicles.

In conducting its study, the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) shall research strategies for getting drivers to adhere to the laws prohibiting certain uses of cell phones in motor vehicles. Such research may include a look at primary versus secondary enforcement of cell phone laws and an analysis of any data available on the enforcement of the current laws.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to VTTI for this study, upon request.

The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute shall complete its study by November 30, 2011, and shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.