



# Handheld Cellular Phone and Text Messaging Bans<sup>1</sup>

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State	Handheld Ban	Text Messaging Ban
Alabama		
Alaska		Yes
Arizona		
Arkansas		Yes
California	Yes	Yes
Colorado		Yes
Connecticut	Yes	Yes
Delaware		
District of Columbia	Yes	Yes
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii	Yes <sup>2</sup>	By jurisdiction <sup>3</sup>
Idaho		
Illinois	Yes <sup>4</sup> / By jurisdiction <sup>5</sup>	Yes
Indiana		
Iowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana	Yes <sup>6</sup>	Yes
Maine		
Maryland		Yes
Massachusetts	By jurisdiction <sup>7</sup>	
Michigan	By jurisdiction <sup>8</sup>	
Minnesota		Yes
Mississippi		
Missouri		<sup>9</sup>
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		Yes
New Jersey	Yes	Yes
New Mexico	By jurisdiction <sup>10</sup> and in State vehicles	
New York	Yes	Yes

<sup>1</sup> This chart does not include any laws prohibiting drivers under the age of 18 and/or bus drivers.

<sup>2</sup> Handheld cellular ban is in effect only in Hawaii County.

<sup>3</sup> Text messaging ban is only in effect in Honolulu.

<sup>4</sup> The use of cell phone use by a driver is prohibited in construction and school speed zones.

<sup>5</sup> Chicago, Illinois

<sup>6</sup> There is a probationary period 1 year from when the license was issued.

<sup>7</sup> Brookline, Massachusetts

<sup>8</sup> Detroit, Michigan

<sup>9</sup> Text messaging ban is in effect for drivers 21 and younger.

<sup>10</sup> Santa Fe, Albuquerque, New Mexico

North Carolina		Yes
North Dakota		
Ohio	By jurisdiction <sup>11</sup>	
Oklahoma		
Oregon	Yes	Yes
Pennsylvania	By jurisdiction <sup>12</sup>	
Rhode Island		Yes
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		Yes
Texas		
Utah	Yes <sup>13</sup>	Yes
Vermont		
Virgin Islands	Yes	
Virginia		Yes
Washington	Yes	Yes
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		

<sup>11</sup> Brooklyn, North Olmstead and Walton Hills, Ohio

<sup>12</sup> Conshohocken, Hilltown Township, Lebanon, Pennsylvania

<sup>13</sup> Utah State Code 41(6a)(1715) defines "Careless driving" as being "distracted" by using a wireless telephone or other electronic." It is legal to use a cell-phone while you are driving only if the driver is using a device with hands-free.