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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE RESOLUTION**

**No. 127**      Session of  
2000

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INTRODUCED BY CONTI, THOMPSON, WAGNER, HELFRICK, HOLL,  
SALVATORE, COSTA, DENT, BELL, GERLACH, MOWERY, TOMLINSON,  
WENGER, BRIGHTBILL, LEMMOND AND BOSCOLA, JANUARY 26, 2000

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REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, JANUARY 26, 2000

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study and  
2 make recommendations concerning the issue of highway safety  
3 and driver distractions, including communications technology,  
4 electronic entertainment and other nontechnological  
5 distractions.

6 WHEREAS, There are many opportunities for driver distractions  
7 while operating a motor vehicle, including, but not limited to,  
8 communications technology, electronic entertainment, fatigue,  
9 reading, food and beverage consumption and passengers, including  
10 children and pets; and

11 WHEREAS, Persons who use Pennsylvania highways pay, through  
12 registration fees or the liquid fuels tax, for highway  
13 maintenance and construction; and

14 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has a responsibility to the  
15 taxpayers to ensure that the public roads and highways are as  
16 safe as possible by enacting enforceable traffic safety laws;  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the  
19 Senate direct the Joint State Government Commission:

1           (1) To study and develop recommendations concerning the  
2 issue of highway safety and driver distractions, including  
3 communications technology and electronic entertainment such  
4 as wireless telephones, pagers, facsimile machines, locator  
5 devices, AM/FM radios, compact disc players, audio cassette  
6 players, citizens band radios and dispatch radios, and all  
7 other forms of nontechnological distractions.

8           (2) To review and analyze studies and statistics  
9 relating to all types of driver distractions which affect  
10 highway and traffic safety.

11           (3) To inquire into innovative communications  
12 technologies being used or proposed to be used in motor  
13 vehicles that may help alleviate risks to highway and traffic  
14 safety.

15           (4) To develop recommendations for public and private  
16 strategies and recommendations for legislative or regulatory  
17 action if deemed appropriate to address these issues;

18 and be it further

19       RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation and the  
20 Pennsylvania State Police assist the Joint State Government  
21 Commission in supplying and gathering statistics relating to all  
22 types of driver distractions which affect highway and traffic  
23 safety in this Commonwealth; and be it further

24       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission make an  
25 interim report on its findings and recommendations to the  
26 General Assembly on July 1, 2000, and a final report on December  
27 1, 2000.