

## ***Civic Minds***

**Date:** Friday, April 21, 2017

**Print Replica Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2017

**Article Title:** **Lawmakers vote to crack down on distracted driving in state**

**Section:** NW Thursday, B2

### **Learning Objectives**

- ✓ Students will examine new laws surrounding distracted drivers.
- ✓ Students will discuss how distracted driving makes them feel.
- ✓ Students will debate whether cell phones can be addictive.

### **CCSS Standards**

#### **Social Studies EALR 1: Civics**

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

#### **Social Studies EALR 3: Geography**

Understands the cultural universals of place, time, family life, economics, communication, arts, recreation, food, clothing, shelter, transportation, government, and education.

#### **Social Studies EALR 4: History**

- Analyzes the motives and interests behind an interpretation of a recent event.

#### **Social Studies EALR 5: Social Studies**

- Analyzes consequences of positions on an issue or event.
- Analyzes the short-term and long-term implications of decisions affecting the global community.

### **Vocabulary**

Look up the definition for ***impair***. Please write the definition and create a new sentence, using your own words.

In 2015 there were 171 fatalities blamed on various sorts of distraction, accounting for one-third of all road deaths in the state. Scientific studies have found that using an electronic device ***impairs*** reaction time as badly as driving drunk.

***Impair*** definition:

New Sentence:

**Civic Minds Activity:** *Take a moment to review today's print replica of The Seattle Times. Can you find a story that stands out to you regarding a global issue or someone that was inspired to help others?*

**Pre-Reading Questions**



- What do you see in this picture?
- What is happening?
- What are the feelings/emotions in this photo?
- What do you think the article will be about?
- Should there be stricter rules and punishments for distracted driving?

**Comprehension Questions:**

1. Lawmakers have approved a crackdown on driving while using a handheld device — but it won't take effect until when?
2. The final version passed Wednesday pushed the proposed start date from Jan. 1, 2018, to Jan. 1, 2019. Why?
3. In return, Farrell managed to do what in the meantime?
4. Farrell justified the wait on Wednesday, saying colleagues in both parties sought more time for what to happen?
5. What is the other name for Senate Bill 5289? What does it still require?
6. What will Senate Bill 5289 forbid?
7. What will be the standard traffic fine? How much will the ticket be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> offense?
8. Current law bans texting and a cellphone chat at the ear, but that leaves what other cell uses
9. Under the new legislation, what will motorists be allowed to do with their phones?
10. Another clause would fine drivers an extra \$30 for other kinds of distraction. What were some examples given in the article?
11. What do opponents argue?

**Class Discussion Questions or Journal/Essay Prompts:**

- Do you know people that drive when they are distracted? What are they doing? How does it make you feel if you're a passenger in the car with them?
- Do you think cell phones can be an addiction? Why or why not?
- Do you think this new bill will save lives? Will it deter drivers from using their phones while driving? Why or why not?

***Gina Bagnariol-Benavides said she doesn't like waiting an extra year but considers the vote a win, if the 2019 start helps make the education and enforcement more effective.***

***Her sister, Jody Bagnariol, of Hillsboro, Ore., and friend Elisabeth Rudolph, of Seattle, died last year in a rear-end crash, when the driver behind was being photographed by her husband in a selfie on southbound I-5 near Napavine. No felony charge was filed.***

***"I just think this is common sense, and it will save many lives," Bagnariol-Benavides said.***

- Is a text or selfie worth dying or potentially killing someone else? Why do so many people continue to do it while they're driving? *No text or picture is worth your life.*

***In 2015 there were 171 fatalities blamed on various sorts of distraction, accounting for one-third of all road deaths in the state. Scientific studies have found that using an electronic device impairs reaction time as badly as driving drunk.***

***Farrell said she's happy with the outcome. Previous campaigns for seat-belt use, and to reduce drunken driving, developed over many years, she said.***

- Do you agree that impaired driving is equally bad as drunk driving? Why or why not?

**Civic Minds in The Seattle Times is posted to the Web on Friday. Please share the NIE program with other teachers. To sign-up for the print replica version of the newspaper please call 206/652-6290 or toll-free at 1-888/775-2655.**  
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