



A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the use of mobile electronic devices by certain persons.

SECTION 2. Section 15-24.23, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, is amended to read as follows:

**“Sec. 15-24.23 Mobile electronic devices.**

(a) No person shall operate a [motor] vehicle while using a mobile electronic device.

(b) A person shall not use a mobile electronic device while crossing a street or highway.

~~[(b)]~~(c) The use of a mobile electronic device for the sole purpose of making a “911” emergency communication shall be an affirmative defense to this ordinance.

~~[(c)]~~(d) The following persons shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection (a)[:] or (b), or both, as the case may be:

- (1) Emergency responders using a mobile electronic device while in the performance and scope of their official duties;
- (2) Drivers using two-way radios while in the performance and scope of their work-related duties;
- (3) Drivers holding a valid amateur radio operator license issued by the Federal Communications Commission and using a half-duplex two-way radio.

~~[(d)]~~(e) As used in this section:

“Emergency responders” include firefighters, emergency medical technicians, mobile intensive care technicians, civil defense workers, police officers and federal and state law enforcement officers.

“Mobile electronic device” means any handheld or other portable electronic equipment capable of providing wireless and/or data communication between two or



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“Mobile electronic device” means any handheld or other portable electronic equipment capable of providing wireless and/or data communication between two or more persons or of providing amusement, including but not limited to a cellular phone, text messaging device, paging device, personal digital assistant, laptop computer, video game, or digital photographic device, but does not include any audio equipment or any equipment installed in a motor vehicle for the purpose of providing navigation, emergency assistance to the operator of the motor vehicle or video entertainment to the passengers in the rear seats of the motor vehicle.

“Motor vehicle” means the same as is defined in HRS Section 291E-1.

“Operate” a [motor] vehicle means the same as is defined in HRS Section 291E-1.

“Use or using” means holding a mobile electronic device while operating a [motor] vehicle[.] or crossing a street or highway.

“Vehicle” means a motor vehicle or a bicycle.”

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling, or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.



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SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect sixty days after its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

Jim Kawayashi (BR)

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAY 03 2011

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

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CITY CLERK  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
RECEIVED

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETER B. CARLISLE, Mayor  
City and County of Honolulu

FILED  
MAY 03 2011

PURSUANT TO ROH Sec. 1-2.4