

Prior law provided that the traffic violation of texting while driving a motor vehicle shall be enforced only as a "secondary action" when the officer detains a driver for another alleged violation. Prior law also prohibited persons 17 years of age or younger from operating a motor vehicle while using any "wireless telecommunications device" to engage in a call or write, send or read a text-based communication, but further provided that this is a non-moving violation and authorizes enforcement of above only as a "secondary action".

New law removes prior law provisions limiting enforcement as a "secondary action" and non-moving violation, thereby making a violation a primary offense for which a driver may be stopped.

Effective August 15, 2010.

(Amends R.S. 32:300.5(C)(4) and 300.7(D))