

ACT No. 677

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 844

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:59(A)(5) and to enact R.S. 32:59(A)(6), relative to the use of
3 the wireless telecommunications devices while operating a motor vehicle; to provide
4 for definitions; to establish the boundary and when a school zone is in effect; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 32:59(A)(5) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:59(A)(6)
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §59. Use of wireless telecommunications device prohibited; exceptions

10 A. Unless otherwise provided in this Subsection, all terms used in this
11 Section shall have the same meaning as defined in R.S. 32:1. As used in this
12 Section, the following terms shall apply:

13 * * *

14 (5) "School zone" means any designated area adjacent to a public or private
15 kindergarten through twelfth grade school or postsecondary institution, that is
16 properly marked with official school warning or similar traffic control signage,
17 including those provided in Chapter 7 of the Department of Transportation and
18 Development Traffic Engineering Manual relating to schools, and that extends not
19 less than two hundred fifty feet prior to the beginning of the school zone. A school
20 zone shall be in effect sixty minutes before school begins, sixty minutes after school
21 begins, sixty minutes before school ends, and sixty minutes after school ends.

22 ~~(5)~~ (6) "Wireless telecommunications device" means a cellular telephone,
23 a text-messaging device, a personal digital assistant, a stand-alone computer or other
24 electronic device, or any other substantially similar portable wireless device that is
25 readily removable from the vehicle and is used to write, send, or read text or data
26 through manual input. The term "wireless telecommunications device" shall not

