

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 677 (HB 844)

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

Existing law (R.S. 32:59) prohibits the operation of a wireless telecommunications device while operating a motor vehicle unless the vehicle is lawfully stationary. Provides enhanced penalties when a violation occurs in a school zone or highway construction zone.

New law retains existing law.

New law defines "school zone" as any designated area adjacent to a public or private kindergarten through 12th grade school or postsecondary institution that is properly marked with official school warning or similar traffic control signage, including signage provided in Chapter 7 of the Dept. of Transportation and Development Traffic Engineering Manual relating to schools, and extending not less than 250 feet prior to the beginning of the zone.

New law specifies that a school zone is in effect 60 minutes before school starts, 60 minutes after school starts, 60 minutes before school ends, and 60 minutes after school ends.

Existing law provides a definition of "wireless telecommunications device".

New law redesignates existing law, but otherwise retains it.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 32:59(A)(5); Adds R.S. 32:59(A)(6))