96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB0071

Introduced 1/14/2009, by Rep. John D'Amico - William B. Black

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/12-610.2 new

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a person may not operate a motor vehicle on a roadway while using an electronic communication device to compose, send, or read an electronic message. Provides that a violation is an offense against traffic regulations governing the movement of vehicles. Sets forth exceptions.

LRB096 02938 AJT 12952 b

HB0071

AN ACT concerning transportation.

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2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by adding
 Section 12-610.2 as follows:
- 6 (625 ILCS 5/12-610.2 new)
- 7 <u>Sec. 12-610.2. Electronic communication devices.</u>
- 8 (a) As used in this Section:
- 9 <u>"Electronic communication device" means an electronic</u> 10 <u>device, including but not limited to a wireless telephone,</u> 11 <u>personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer</u> 12 <u>while being used for the purpose of composing, reading, or</u> 13 <u>sending an electronic message, but does not include a global</u> 14 <u>positioning system or navigation system when the system is used</u> 15 <u>exclusively for navigation purposes.</u>
- 16 <u>"Electronic message" means a self-contained piece of</u> 17 <u>digital communication that is designed or intended to be</u> 18 <u>transmitted between physical devices. "Electronic message"</u> 19 <u>includes, but is not limited to electronic mail, a text</u> 20 <u>message, an instant message, or a command or request to access</u> 21 <u>an Internet site.</u>
- 22 (b) A person may not operate a motor vehicle on a roadway 23 while using an electronic communication device to compose,

- 2 - LRB096 02938 AJT 12952 b HB0071 send, or read an electronic message. 1 (c) A violation of this Section is an offense against 2 traffic regulations governing the movement of vehicles. 3 4 (d) This Section does not apply to: (1) a law enforcement officer or operator of an 5 emergency vehicle while performing his or her official 6 7 duties; (2) a driver using an electronic communication device 8 9 for the sole purpose of reporting an emergency situation and continued communication with emergency personnel 10 11 during the emergency situation; or 12 (3) a driver using an electronic communication device

13 <u>solely in voice-activated mode.</u>