

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 44

Senators Santana, Wojno, Bayer, Geiss, Johnson, McMorrow and Moss offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to commemorate April 30, 2021, as Distracted  
2 Driving Awareness Day.

3       Whereas, Distracted driving is a serious threat to public  
4 safety on Michigan's roads; and

5       Whereas, Since 2010, Michigan law has prohibited texting while  
6 driving; and

7       Whereas, Drivers from all socio-economic backgrounds, races,  
8 ethnicities, genders, and ages engage in and are harmed by  
9 distracted driving; and

10       Whereas, Nationally, distracted driving causes hundreds of  
11 thousands of injuries and thousands of fatalities every year.

1 According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
2 (NHTSA), distracted driving tragically claimed the lives of 3,142  
3 Americans in 2019, an increase of nearly 10 percent from 2018; and

4 Whereas, According to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety,  
5 approximately 69 percent of drivers agree that typing or reading e-  
6 mails, text messages, and social media while driving is extremely  
7 dangerous, but many still engage in dangerous practices on the  
8 road; and

9 Whereas, Young drivers are further at risk of distracted  
10 driving. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia reports that 39  
11 percent of high school students reported texting or emailing within  
12 the past month; and

13 Whereas, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
14 reported that nearly 40 percent of teens still engage in texting  
15 while driving; and

16 Whereas, We encourage school districts across Michigan to  
17 partner with campaigns like Arrive Alive, a peer-to-peer campaign  
18 that establishes safe driving and passenger safety behaviors among  
19 teens and youth during the high-risk warm weather months; and

20 Whereas, Michigan's roads would be made safer by a reduction  
21 of distracted driving; and

22 Whereas, The campaign to reduce distracted driving has been  
23 aided by the efforts of local and state law enforcement in  
24 Michigan; now, therefore, be it

25 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative  
26 body commemorate April 30, 2021, as Distracted Driving Awareness  
27 Day; and be it further

28 Resolved, That we encourage all Michiganders to put down their  
29 telephones while driving.