

By: Representative Smith (27th)

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 159

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE OF CAUSING A MOTOR
2 VEHICLE ACCIDENT WHILE USING A CELLULAR PHONE OR OTHER SIMILAR
3 DEVICE; TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; TO PROVIDE THAT A
4 VIOLATION OF THIS ACT IS NEGLIGENCE PER SE; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 SECTION 1. Any person who causes a motor vehicle accident
8 while using a cellular phone, mobile phone or other similar
9 telecommunication or radio device, and it is determined that the
10 use of such device contributed to the cause of the accident shall
11 be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined
12 not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). A conviction
13 under this section shall be considered negligence per se in any
14 civil action.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
16 and after July 1, 2001.

