

By: Representative Eads

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 492

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES WHILE
2 OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE; TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to use a
6 cellular telephone while operating a motor vehicle. Any person
7 who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a
8 misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than
9 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

10 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit a
11 person from using a cellular phone while operating a motor vehicle
12 when the phone is being used with hands-free accessories. The
13 phrase "hands-free accessories" means a device or devices that
14 allow a vehicle operator to speak on a cellular phone without
15 holding the phone or some part of the phone with his hands.

16 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
17 and after July 1, 2003.

