

By: Representative Fleming

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 217

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROHIBIT THE HOLDER OF A TEMPORARY DRIVING PERMIT, AN INTERMEDIATE
3 LICENSE OR A TEMPORARY MOTORCYCLE DRIVING PERMIT FROM USING A
4 CELLULAR TELEPHONE OR INTERACTIVE WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE
5 WHILE OPERATING A MOVING PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE ON A PUBLIC ROAD,
6 STREET OR HIGHWAY IN THIS STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-1-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 63-1-21. (1) Every applicant for a new or original driver's
11 or operator's license, except persons holding an out-of-state
12 license, shall first obtain a temporary driving permit upon the
13 payment of a fee of One Dollar (\$1.00) to the Department of Public
14 Safety and upon the successful completion of the examination
15 provided for in Section 63-1-33 and the payment of the fee for
16 such examination provided for in Section 63-1-43.

17 (2) A temporary driving permit entitles the holder, provided
18 the permit is in his immediate possession, to drive a motor
19 vehicle other than a motorcycle on the highways of the State of
20 Mississippi only when accompanied by a licensed operator who is at
21 least twenty-one (21) years of age and who is actually occupying
22 the seat beside the driver. A temporary driving permit may be
23 issued to any applicant who is at least fifteen (15) years of age.
24 A temporary driving permit shall be valid for a period of one (1)
25 year from the date of issue.

26 (3) An intermediate license allows unsupervised driving from
27 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. At all other times the intermediate
28 licensee must be supervised by a parent, guardian or other person
29 age twenty-one (21) years or older who holds a valid driver's



30 license under this article and who is actually occupying the seat
31 beside the driver.

32 (4) The fee for issuance of an intermediate license shall be
33 Five Dollars (\$5.00).

34 (5) Except as otherwise provided by Section 63-1-6, every
35 applicant for a restricted motorcycle operator's license or a
36 motorcycle endorsement shall first obtain a temporary motorcycle
37 driving permit upon the payment of a fee of One Dollar (\$1.00) to
38 the Department of Public Safety, and upon the successful
39 completion of the examination provided for in Section 63-1-33, and
40 payment of the fee for said examination provided for in Section
41 63-1-43. All applicants for such temporary permit shall (a) be at
42 least fifteen (15) years of age; (b) operate a motorcycle only
43 under the direct supervision of a person at least twenty-one (21)
44 years of age who possesses either a valid driver's or operator's
45 license with a motorcycle endorsement or a valid restricted
46 motorcycle operator's license; (c) be prohibited from transporting
47 a passenger on a motorcycle; (d) be prohibited from operating a
48 motorcycle upon any controlled access highway; and (e) be
49 prohibited from operating a motorcycle during the hours of 6:00
50 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. Temporary motorcycle driving permits shall
51 be valid for the same period of time and may be renewed upon the
52 same conditions as temporary driving permits issued for vehicles
53 other than motorcycles.

54 (6) It is unlawful for the holder of a temporary driving
55 permit, an intermediate license or a temporary motorcycle driving
56 permit to use a cellular telephone or interactive wireless
57 communication device while operating a moving passenger motor
58 vehicle on a public road, street or highway in this state. The
59 term "use" as used in this subsection means talking or listening
60 to another person on a cellular telephone or interactive wireless
61 communication device or operating its keys, buttons or other
62 controls.



63 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
64 and after July 1, 2007.

