

RESOLUTION NO. 76-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRES HANDS-FREE PHONE USE WHILE DRIVING; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, distracted driving is a leading cause of motor vehicle crashes in the United States, contributing to thousands of injuries and fatalities each year; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that handheld device interaction while driving increases the risk of crashing by 23 times; and

WHEREAS, the NHTSA also reports handheld device interaction while driving is six times more dangerous than driving under the influence of alcohol; and

WHEREAS, a study from Cambridge Mobile Telematics reported an increase of 17.8% in screen interaction time while driving from 2020 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, the use of handheld devices while driving significantly impairs a driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle, diverting attention from the road and increasing reaction times; and

WHEREAS, implementing legislation requiring the hands-free use of handheld devices while driving can reduce the incidence of distracted driving, saving lives and promoting safer roadways for all; and

WHEREAS, 31 states have successfully enacted hands-free laws, resulting in a measurable decrease in crashes and fatalities related to distracted driving; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of our local government to advocate for the safety and well-being of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Commission hereby expresses its support for legislation mandating the hands-free use of handheld devices while driving.

Section 2. The City Commission urges the Florida State Legislature to pass such legislation to enhance road safety and protect lives.

Section 3. The City Clerk, or designee, is directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Governor of Florida, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Palm Beach County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and hereby are repealed.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in regular session on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
2025.

ATTEST:

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Alexis Givings, City Clerk

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Thomas F. Carney, Jr., Mayor

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

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Lynn Gelin, City Attorney