

October 1, 2015
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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Distracted Driving is Getting Worse

Dear Nikki Haley;

As a concerned fellow republican, there are quite a few problems concerning distracted drivers. There is always wrecks on the roads and there are many deaths caused by distracted drivers. In 2012, 3,328 people were killed because of distracted drivers and there was 3,360 killed in 2011. Also in 2012, 421,000 were injured by distracted drivers (<http://www.cdc.gov/>). Therefore, I propose a new bill that states that drivers are not allowed to drive, smoke, talk/text on the phone, etc. all at the same time.

The other day my father and I were driving to the store. We came up next to a woman who was driving while smoking and talking on the phone. As my dad and I approached her, we could tell that driving was not the only thing on her mind. She was driving slow and was swerving in her lane. Once my dad and I came up next to her, we saw all of her distractions. The woman had her phone in her right hand up to her ear. In her left hand, she had a cigarette between her pointer and middle finger and then was steering the car with her other three fingers. My father sped past her as soon as he could. Drivers should not be allowed to do all three activates at once. Talking on the phone and driving or smoking and driving is dangerous in general so combining all of them is even more dangerous.

Another time, my father and I were on the way home when we were approaching someone swerving. As we got closer we saw that she was putting on makeup. Her car's grill was bent, her fender had a dent,

and there were other dents on her car. Therefore, I predicted that she was not the best driver so seeing her try and look in the mirror and put on makeup was nerve racking. On top of putting on makeup, she kept looking at her phone.

I propose a law that fines anyone caught doing more than one activity while driving. Doing just one activity is often dangerous but sometimes it is necessary such as talking on the phone. If you're driving and an emergency pops up, then you should be able to talk on your phone. However, you should not be allowed to talk, drive, and smoke or talk, drive, and put on makeup, etc.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Barry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "E" and "B".

Erin Barry