

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-288**

A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION PROHIBITING AN INDIVIDUAL FROM WRITING, SENDING OR RECEIVING TEXT MESSAGES WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE; FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE OFFICIALS AS STATED HEREIN.

**WHEREAS**, the National Safety Council reports that using a cell phone while driving quadruples drivers' risk of getting into an automobile accident; and

**WHEREAS**, studies have shown that driving while on the phone is the same as being legally drunk or having a blood-alcohol level of .08 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, a study from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute found that drivers who text message while driving face a 23 times greater risk than undistracted drivers from crashing or having a near crash; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Safety Council encourages states to regulate cell phone use while driving and to include text messaging technology in any regulation; and

**WHEREAS**, a Federal Bill was recently proposed to reduce the amount of Federal highway funding available to States that do not enact a law prohibiting an individual from writing, sending, or reading text messages while operating a motor vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, Seventeen (17) States and the District of Columbia have already enacted legislation that prohibits an individual from writing, sending, or reading text messages while operating a motor vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission believes that regulating text messaging while driving is necessary for the health, safety and welfare of residents of Coral Gables;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Commission does hereby urge the Florida Legislature to enact legislation prohibiting an individual from writing, sending, or reading text messages while operating a motor vehicle.

**SECTION 3.** That the City Commission does hereby direct the City Clerk to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Florida, Mayor of Miami-Dade, and Representatives in the Florida Legislature, and to each of the thirty five municipalities comprising the Miami-Dade League of Cities.

**SECTION 4.** That this resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS THIRTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D., 2009.

(Moved: Cabrera / Seconded: Kerdyk)

(Yeas: Kerdyk, Withers, Anderson, Cabrera, Slesnick)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: C-)

APPROVED:



DONALD D. SLESNICK II  
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER L. FOEMAN  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



ELIZABETH M. HERNANDEZ  
CITY ATTORNEY