

PROPOSED DECLARATION STATE OF OREGON

WHEREAS: Motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of death and injury hospitalization in Oregon; and

WHEREAS: Distracted driving is a serious, life threatening practice that is preventable, yet is a national and statewide epidemic; and

WHEREAS: In Oregon, between 2014-2018 there were 13,603 fatal and injury crashes resulting in 137 fatalities and 20,992 injuries; and

WHEREAS: Distracted Driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention from the primary task of driving; and

WHEREAS: Studies show that using mobile electronic devices involves visual, auditory, manual, and cognitive distraction, and is among the worst of all driver distractions; and

WHEREAS: Oregon law, as of 2018, prohibits the use of mobile electronic devices when operating a motor vehicle on public roadways; and

WHEREAS: In order to reduce the number of crashes as well as improve Oregon's driver safety culture, the Oregon Department of Transportation seeks to enhance the awareness, understanding, education and enforcement to stop distracted driving.

NOW,

THEREFORE: We, the Governor-appointed Oregon Transportation Safety Committee, hereby declare the month of April, 2021 to be

DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

In Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.