

Amend CSHB 55 (house committee printing) as follows:

(1) On page 1, between lines 22 and 23, insert:

(b-1) A municipality, county, or other political subdivision that enforces this section shall post a sign that complies with the standards described by this subsection at the entrance to each school crossing zone in the municipality, county, or other political subdivision. The department shall adopt standards requiring that a sign required to be posted under this subsection inform an operator that:

(1) the use of a wireless communication device is prohibited in the school crossing zone; and

(2) the operator is subject to the fine described by Subsection (f) if the operator uses a wireless communication device in the school crossing zone.

(2) On page 2, strike lines 3-14 and substitute:

(d) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution of an offense under this section that:

(1) the wireless communication device was used to make an emergency call to:

(A) an emergency response service, including a rescue, emergency medical, or hazardous material response service;

(B) a hospital;

(C) a fire department;

(D) a health clinic;

(E) a medical doctor's office;

(F) an individual to administer first aid treatment; or

(G) a police department; or

(2) a sign required by Subsection (b-1) was not posted at the entrance to the school crossing zone at the time of an offense committed in the school crossing zone.

(3) On page 2, between lines 21 and 22, insert:

(f) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of:

(1) not more than \$25 for the first offense; and

(2) not more than \$50 for each subsequent offense.