

By: Pitts, Cook, et al.

H.B. No. 347

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to prohibiting using a wireless communication device while
3 operating a motor vehicle on school property.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 545.425(b), Transportation Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), an operator may
8 not use a wireless communication device while operating a motor
9 vehicle:

10 (1) in [~~within~~] a school crossing zone, as defined by
11 Section 541.302, Transportation Code, unless:

12 (A) [~~(1)~~] the vehicle is stopped; or

13 (B) [~~(2)~~] the wireless communication device is
14 used with a hands-free device; or

15 (2) on the property of a public elementary, middle, or
16 junior high school for which a local authority has designated a
17 school crossing zone, during the time a reduced speed limit is in
18 effect for the school crossing zone, unless:

19 (A) the vehicle is stopped; or

20 (B) the wireless communication device is used
21 with a hands-free device.

22 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
23 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.

24 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is

1 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
2 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
3 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
4 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
5 before that date.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.