§2116. USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES BY MINORS WHILE OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLES

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Handheld electronic device" means any handheld electronic device that is not part of the operating equipment of the motor vehicle, including but not limited to an electronic game, device for sending or receiving electronic mail, text messaging device or computer. [2007, c. 272, §1 (NEW).]

B. "Mobile telephone" means a device used to access a wireless telephone service. [2007, c. 272, §1 (NEW).]

B-1. "Operate" means driving a motor vehicle on a public way with the motor running, including while temporarily stationary because of traffic, a traffic light or a stop sign or otherwise stationary. "Operate" does not include operating a motor vehicle with or without the motor running when the operator has pulled the motor vehicle over to the side of, or off, a public way and has halted in a location where the motor vehicle can safely remain stationary. [2015, c. 113, §4 (NEW).]

C. "Using" means manipulating, talking into or otherwise interacting with a mobile telephone or handheld electronic device. [2015, c. 113, §5 (AMD).]

[ 2015, c. 113, §§4, 5 (AMD) .]

2. Prohibition. A person who has not attained 18 years of age may not operate a motor vehicle while using a mobile telephone or handheld electronic device.

[ 2007, c. 272, §1 (NEW) .]

3. Penalty. A person who violates this section commits a traffic infraction for which a fine of not less than $50 for the first offense and not less than $250 for a 2nd or subsequent offense may be adjudged.

[ 2007, c. 272, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY