

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY
2 RESOLUTION
3

4 **Dangers of Distracted Driving**

5
6 *Adopted October 29, 2011*
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8 Whereas, distracted driving comes in various forms, such as cell phone use, texting while driving, as
9 well as using in-vehicle technologies and portable electronic devices; and

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11 Whereas, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, twenty percent of injury
12 crashes in 2009 involved reports of distracted driving; and

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14 Whereas, a Virginia Technical University Transportation Institute study revealed that physically
15 dialing a phone while driving increases the risk of a crash as much as six times and texting increases the
16 collision risk by 23 times; and

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18 Whereas, Vermont state police reports show that roughly 10 percent of all crashes in Vermont are
19 caused by distracted drivers; and

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21 Whereas, under Vermont law, a person shall not engage in texting while operating a moving motor
22 vehicle on a highway; and therefore be it

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24 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society urge the Vermont General Assembly to enact a**
25 **law banning the use of a hand-held communication device while driving, except in the event of**
26 **an emergency; and be it further**

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28 **RESOLVED, that the Vermont Medical Society work with the Vermont Agency of**
29 **Transportation and the Governor's Highway commission to decrease cell phone use while**
30 **driving and educate the public on the dangers of all forms of distracted driving.**