2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 890

February 26, 2008 - Introduced by Representatives Molepske and Berceau. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

- AN ACT *to amend* 346.95 (1); and *to create* 346.94 (20) of the statutes; **relating**to: driving a motor vehicle while using a cellular telephone and providing a
- 3 penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits inattentive driving, which means that a driver of a motor vehicle may not be so engaged or occupied as to interfere with the safe driving of the vehicle. Any person convicted of inattentive driving may be required to forfeit not less than \$20 nor more than \$400.

Under this bill, a person may not drive a motor vehicle, other than an authorized emergency vehicle, on any state trunk highway, not including connecting highways, while using a hand-held cellular telephone, except to report an emergency. This prohibition applies regardless of whether use of the cellular telephone interferes with operation of the vehicle, but does not apply to hands-free cellular telephones. A person who violates this prohibition may be required to forfeit not less than \$20 nor more than \$40 for a first offense, and not less than \$50 nor more than \$100 for a second or subsequent offense within one year.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

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Section 1. 346.94 (20) of the statutes is created to read:
346.94 (20) Cellular telephones. No person may drive, as defined in s.
$343.305\ (1)\ (b)$, a motor vehicle, other than an authorized emergency vehicle, on any
state trunk highway while using a hand-held cellular telephone, except to report an
emergency.
Section 2. 346.95 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
346.95 (1) Any person violating s. 346.87, 346.88, 346.89 (2), 346.90 to 346.92
or $346.94(1), (9), (10), (11), (12)$ or, (15) , or (20) may be required to forfeit not less than
\$20 nor more than $$40$ for the first offense and not less than $$50$ nor more than $$100$
for the 2nd or subsequent conviction within a year.
Section 3. Effective date.
(1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 4th month beginning after
publication.

(END)