



June 8, 2021

The Honorable Jeff LeRe
Chair, House Criminal Justice Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

HB 283: Distracted Driving Position: Support

Dear Chair LaRe:

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation¹ (Auto Innovators) is writing in **support of HB 283**, which seeks to update Ohio's distracted driving law. We want to commend the sponsors for their commitment to improving the safety of Ohio's roads by including these provisions to strengthen Ohio's distracted driving laws.

Auto Innovators' members invest heavily in research and development to design and implement state-of-the-art safety systems to protect our customers. Technological advancement, however, is only part of the equation. Consumer behavior also plays a critical role in vehicle and passenger safety. Wearing seat belts, following the rules of the road, and not driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol are all vital to road safety. Also important to this calculation is the level of attention operators pay to the driving task at hand.

To assist a driver to keep their eyes on the road and hands on the wheel, the industry has developed technologies in today's cars designed around a set of engineering principles aimed at mitigating driver distraction. In fact, these principles, which have been voluntarily followed by vehicle manufacturers for over a decade, served as the basis for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) distracted driving guidelines released in 2014.

In addition to working with NHTSA to bring safer vehicles to the roadways, Auto Innovators and its members have also worked with state legislators across the country to enact roadway

¹ Focused on creating a safe and transformative path for sustainable industry growth, the Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the manufacturers producing nearly 99 percent of cars and light trucks sold in the U.S. The organization, is directly involved in regulatory and policy matters impacting the light-duty vehicle market across the country. Members include motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, technology and other automotive-related companies and trade associations. The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in Detroit, MI and Sacramento, CA. For more information, visit our website <http://www.autosinnovate.org>.

1050 K Street, NW
Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

[AutosInnovate.org](http://www.AutosInnovate.org)

safety legislation. It is in this capacity that we are writing you to ask for your support of HB 283.

We thank you for consideration of our position and requested amendment. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jfisher@autosinnovate.org or 202-326-5562, should I be able to provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Josh Fisher
Director, State Affairs
Alliance for Automotive Innovation

