

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1993**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Nava**

February 14, 2008

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An act to amend Section 27602 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1993, as introduced, Nava. Motor vehicle operation: video screens.

Existing law makes it unlawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle if a television receiver, a video monitor, or a television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually displaying a television broadcast or video signal that produces entertainment or business applications, is operating and is located in the motor vehicle at any point forward of the back of the driver's seat, or is operating and visible to the driver while he or she is driving the motor vehicle.

This bill would replace the term "similar means of" with "similar device for" and makes technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 27602 of the Vehicle Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 27602. (a) A person may not drive a motor vehicle if a
- 4 television receiver, a video monitor, ~~or~~ a television or video screen,

1 or any other, similar ~~means of~~ *device for* visually displaying a  
2 television broadcast or video signal that produces entertainment  
3 or business applications, is operating and is located in the motor  
4 vehicle at any point forward of the back of the driver's seat, or is  
5 operating and visible to the driver while driving the motor vehicle.

6 (b) Subdivision (a) does not apply to the following equipment  
7 when installed in a vehicle:

8 (1) A vehicle information display.

9 (2) A global positioning display.

10 (3) A mapping display.

11 (4) A visual display used to enhance or supplement the driver's  
12 view forward, behind, or to the sides of a motor vehicle for the  
13 purpose of maneuvering the vehicle.

14 (5) A television receiver, video monitor, television or video  
15 screen, or any other, similar ~~means of~~ *device for* visually displaying  
16 a television broadcast or video signal, if that equipment has an  
17 interlock device that, when the motor vehicle is driven, disables  
18 the equipment for all uses except as a visual display as described  
19 in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive.

20 (6) A mobile digital terminal installed in a vehicle owned or  
21 operated by an electrical corporation, as defined in Section 218 of  
22 the Public Utilities Code, a local publicly owned electric utility,  
23 as defined in Section 9604 of that code, a gas corporation, as  
24 defined in Section 222 of that code, or a telephone corporation, as  
25 defined in Section 234 of that code, if the mobile digital terminal  
26 is fitted with an opaque covering that does not allow the driver to  
27 view any part of the display while driving, even though the terminal  
28 may be operating.

29 (c) Subdivision (a) does not apply to a mobile digital terminal  
30 installed in an authorized emergency vehicle or to a motor vehicle  
31 providing emergency road service or roadside assistance.

32 (d) Subdivision (a) does not apply to a mobile digital terminal  
33 installed in a vehicle owned or operated by an electrical  
34 corporation, as defined in Section 218 of the Public Utilities Code,  
35 a local publicly owned electric utility, as defined in Section 9604  
36 of that code, a gas corporation, as defined in Section 222 of that  
37 code, or a telephone corporation, as defined in Section 234 of that  
38 code, when the vehicle is deployed in an emergency to respond to

- 1 an interruption or impending interruption of electrical, natural gas,
- 2 or telephone service.

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