



State Senator Don Huffines - Senate District 16 (Dallas)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2017

Contact: Brent Connett
(512- 463-0116)

SEN. HUFFINES TO PURSUE MOBILE DEVICE PREEMPTION BILL

The rules of the road should be consistent across Texas

AUSTIN – Today, Governor Greg Abbott announced that Senator Don Huffines (R-Dallas) and Representative Craig Goldman (R-Fort Worth) will author legislation in the upcoming special session to preempt local ordinances that govern the use of a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle. The bill, which will work in conjunction with the statewide ban on texting while driving (House Bill 62 – 85R), is intended to make the rules of the road a more consistent statewide issue to limit driver confusion and promote safer alternatives to texting.

The following statement is attributable to Senator Huffines:

"Across the state of Texas, we're currently micromanaging drivers with a confusing and inconsistent mix of local ordinances. The rules of the road should be consistent across our great state, which is why we must get local regulators' hands off of hands-free ordinances. This is an important step to finish the job we started by banning texting while driving.

"Drivers may sometimes need a lifeline that they can legally use in an emergency or to communicate with family. That's why we need to stop sending mixed signals to drivers, especially those who frequently drive across our state or between communities in an urban or suburban environment.

"I look forward to working with Governor Greg Abbott, Representative Craig Goldman, and our colleagues in the Legislature to make it clear that drivers must put the brakes on texting, yet they can still pick up the phone as a safer alternative."

###

Senator Don Huffines represents the North half of Dallas County in the Texas Senate. First elected in 2014, he serves as Vice Chairman of the Senate Veteran Affairs & Border Security Committee, and as a member of the Senate Committees on Natural Resources & Economic Development, Education, Intergovernmental Relations, and Administration. Senator Huffines is an advocate for free markets, fewer regulations, and believes in limited government, personal responsibility, and that individuals have the God-given right to pursue their own path.