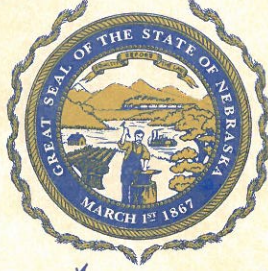


STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** *Motor vehicle crashes are the primary cause of preventable deaths in the United States, claiming almost 36,000 lives each year; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Distracted driving has become a critical concern for improving U.S. traffic safety; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The number one distraction while driving has become cell phone use; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The number of cell phone subscribers has grown to 270 million; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Recent studies show that 81% of cell phone subscribers admit to talking on the phone while driving, and NHTSA estimates that 12% of drivers at any point during the day are talking on cell phones while driving; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Recent studies show that drivers using cell phones are 4 times more likely to crash; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The National Safety Council estimates that 1.4 million crashes per year or 23% of all crashes involve cell phones; and*
- WHEREAS,** *A collaboration that includes National Safety Council – Greater Omaha Chapter, C.A.R. Alliance, Keep Kids Alive Drive 25, City of Omaha, State Farm Insurance, Nebraska State Patrol, Omaha Police Department and Douglas County Sheriff has determined that a day be designated for cell phone users to turn off their phones while driving; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter challenges all drivers to commit to a day of cell-free driving; then another and another, until the habit is broken.*
- NOW, THEREFORE,** *I, Dave Heineman, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the 29th day of June, 2011, as*

GREAT NATIONAL CELL OFF DAY


in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance by practicing turning off their cell phones while driving.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Seventh day of June, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Eleven.



Attest:


Secretary of State


Governor