

PROPOSED

RESOLUTION NO.

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD
2 COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION REQUIRING THAT ANY USE OF
3 HANDHELD MOBILE DEVICES WHILE DRIVING BE HANDS-FREE; DIRECTING THE
4 COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TRANSMIT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO
5 DESIGNATED PERSONS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN
6 EFFECTIVE DATE.

7 (Sponsored by Vice-Mayor Mark D. Bogen)

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9 WHEREAS, distracted driving is a leading cause of motor vehicle crashes in the
10 United States, contributing to thousands of injuries and fatalities each year;

11 WHEREAS, a study from Cambridge Mobile Telematics reported an increase in
12 screen interaction time while driving of 17.8% from 2020 to 2023;

13 WHEREAS, the handheld use of mobile devices while driving impairs a driver's
14 ability to safely operate a vehicle, diverting attention from the road and increasing reaction
15 times;

16 WHEREAS, Broward County has witnessed too many traffic crashes attributed to
17 distracted driving, affecting the safety of men, women, and children who reside in or visit
18 the county;

19 WHEREAS, implementing legislation banning handheld use of mobile devices
20 while driving use can reduce the incidence of distracted driving, saving lives and
21 promoting safer roadways for all;

22 WHEREAS, more than 30 states have enacted hands-free laws, resulting in a
23 measurable decrease in fatalities related to distracted driving;

24 WHEREAS, Florida law currently prohibits texting while driving, but the statutory
25 prohibition against handheld use of mobile devices is currently limited to school zones,
26 designated school crossings, and active construction work zones; and

27 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the local government to advocate for the
28 safety and well-being of the community, NOW, THEREFORE,

29 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
30 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

31 Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida
32 (“Board”), hereby expresses its strong support for legislation mandating that any use of
33 handheld mobile devices while driving be hands-free.

34 Section 2. The Board urges the Florida Legislature to pass such legislation to
35 enhance road safety and protect lives.

36 Section 3. The Board hereby directs that the County Administrator transmit a
37 copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, to all Florida state legislators
38 representing Broward County residents, and to such other local advocacy groups as the
39 County Administrator deems advisable to demonstrate the Board’s commitment to
40 reducing distracted driving and improving the safety of our roadways.

41 Section 4. Severability.

42 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid
43 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this
44 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be

