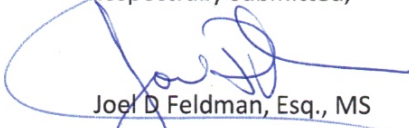


olds (47.6%).⁴ While the frequency with which 16–18-year-olds will read and send texts is much too high, about 47% and 36% respectively, for 19–24-year-olds it increases to 56% and 48%, respectively.⁵

Seemingly, as teens gain a few years of driving experience they increase their distracted driving behaviors. That trajectory is going in exactly the wrong direction.

Unlike drunk driving, distracted driving is not yet socially unacceptable. Until we make distracted driving socially unacceptable, we will continue to lose lives on our roadways. The deck is stacked against our children when it comes to keeping them safe from distracted driving crashes. Many parents fail to set a good example for safe, distraction-free driving for their children. Teens do not believe they will get caught while driving distracted and distracted driving kills and injures so many teens. We need to act now to protect our children. As parents many of us have failed to teach our children the importance of distraction-free driving. We now have an opportunity to remedy that failing by passing HB 1038. Changing our driving culture requires legislation, enforcement, and education. HB 1082 addresses the components of legislation and enforcement and should be passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Joel D. Feldman, Esq., MS

info@EndDD.org

President Casey Feldman Foundation/EndDD.org

⁴ AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Traffic Safety Culture Index, 2019. <https://aaafoundation.org/2019-traffic-safety-culture-index/>

⁵ AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Culture Index, 2017. <https://aaafoundation.org/2017-traffic-safety-culture-index/> Traffic Safety Culture Index, 2018. <https://aaafoundation.org/2018-traffic-safety-culture-index/>