



Senator Courtney
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE,
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: SB2

*Renames offense of operating motor vehicle while using mobile communication device as offense of operating motor vehicle while using mobile electronic device.
Defines “mobile electronic device.”
Increases penalty for offense.*

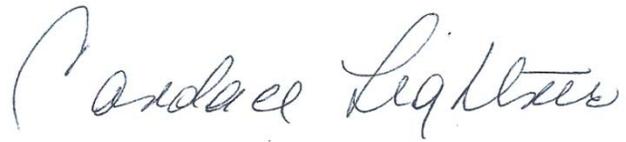
Dear Senator Courtney:

I am writing on behalf of We Save Lives, an international organization with more than 50 partners including, NOYS, EndDD, Hang Up and Drive, the Conor Lynch Foundation, Safe Roads Alliance, and the National Safety Council, We Save Lives would like to add our voice to those who support penalizing drivers who insist on using a phone while driving. **SB2** will demonstrate to the public that this dangerous driving behavior will not be tolerated. Cell phone use behind the wheel kills thousands on our roadways and injures thousands more. It is unsafe, irresponsible and deadly. We need to send a clear message to drivers that their focus should be on driving safely and not on communicating, posting or texting with a mobile device while behind the wheel. We support your efforts to implement fines and other methods of holding driver's accountable when they endanger others.

According to the National Safety Council almost 1/3 of the traffic crashes that occur happen while someone is on a cell phone. Also, talking on a cell phone is as dangerous as drunk driving yet legislators still refuse to treat it seriously. Advocates such as We Save Lives cannot make driver cell phone use socially unacceptable without support from our lawmakers and courts.

Distracted driving deaths and injuries are increasing and we **need to take action now** to save lives in the state of Texas. We applaud your efforts and will work with you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Candace Lightner". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being significantly larger and more decorative than the others.

Candace Lightner, President
We Save Lives
CLightner@wesavelives.org