

1 [Urging the California State Legislature to Pass Assembly Bill 840]

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3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to pass Assembly Bill 840 to require**  
4 **the Department of Motor Vehicles to have driver's license applicants sign a statement**  
5 **implying they are aware of the dangers caused by distracted driving.**  
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7 WHEREAS, California ranks first in the nation for the highest number of annual  
8 reported pedestrian fatalities and fourth in the nation behind New York, Hawaii, and New  
9 Jersey for the highest percentage of traffic fatalities that are pedestrians; and

10 WHEREAS, San Franciscans experience about 800 pedestrian injuries and 22 fatalities  
11 every year. This translates to 2 to 3 pedestrians per day; and

12 WHEREAS, In order to prosecute a person at fault in an accident, the District Attorney  
13 must usually prove "intent." If they cannot prove that a driver knew, or reasonably should  
14 have known, that their actions were dangerous before hitting someone with a car, then the  
15 District Attorney will have more difficulty prosecuting and reaching justice; and

16 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 840 would require the Department of Motor Vehicles  
17 include a disclaimer on all driver's license tests upon the updating of their current system; and

18 WHEREAS, The disclaimer would state that the applicant is fully aware and recognizes  
19 the risks and personal liability of driving while distracted; and

20 WHEREAS, This bill will improve California's annual ranking of safety for pedestrians  
21 and bicyclists by making drivers more aware of their liability and duty as a California State  
22 Driver; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
24 hereby urges the California State Legislature to pass AB 840.  
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