

SENATE BILL NO. 97—COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE TAXICAB AUTHORITY)

PREFILED DECEMBER 15, 2008

Referred to Committee on Energy, Infrastructure and Transportation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to taxicabs.  
(BDR 58-433)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly  
Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City  
Jail or Detention Facility.

Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to taxicabs; prohibiting a taxicab driver from  
using a handheld cellular phone or other similar device  
while carrying a passenger in his taxicab; and providing  
other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 **Section 1** of this bill prohibits a taxicab driver from using a handheld cellular  
2 phone or other similar device while carrying a passenger in his taxicab.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 706.8845 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:  
3 706.8845 While a driver is on duty, he shall:  
4 1. Be appropriately dressed by the standards of the taxicab  
5 business.  
6 2. Be neat and clean in person and appearance.  
7 3. Refrain from talking loudly, *from* uttering profanity and  
8 from shouting to other drivers.  
9 4. Not have in his possession a lighted cigar, cigarette or pipe  
10 while a passenger is being carried in his taxicab.



\* S B 9 7 \*

5. Not chew tobacco or use snuff while a passenger is being carried in his taxicab.

6. Attend his taxicab if it is being held out for hire.

7. Not permit his taxicab to remain at a taxicab stand unless it is being held out for hire.

8. Discourage passengers from entering or leaving a taxicab from the left side except at the left curb of a one-way street or while the car is parked perpendicularly to a curb.

9. Not load or unload passengers or luggage at an intersection or crosswalk or at any place or in any manner that will interfere with the orderly flow of traffic.

10. Not carry more than two passengers in the front seat of the taxicab or carry more passengers in the back seat of the taxicab than are authorized by the manufacturer's recommendations.

11. Not leave his taxicab unattended with the key in the ignition lock.

12. *Not use a cellular phone, satellite phone, portable phone or any other similar electronic device that is handheld and designed or used to communicate with a person while a passenger is being carried in his taxicab. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a driver using the two-way mobile radio referred to in NRS 706.8832.*

13. Operate his taxicab in accordance with all applicable state and local laws and regulations and with due regard for the safety, comfort and convenience of passengers and of the general public.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 707.375 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.375 1. An agency, board, commission or political subdivision of this State, including, without limitation, any agency, board, commission or governing body of a local government, shall not regulate the use of a telephonic device by a person who is operating a motor vehicle **H**, *except as provided pursuant to section 1 of this act.*

2. As used in subsection 1, "telephonic device" means a cellular phone, satellite phone, portable phone or any other similar electronic device that is handheld and designed or used to communicate with a person.

**Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

