

Senate Bill No. 515

(By Senators Cole, Carmichael, Green, D. Hall and Stollings)

[Introduced March 13, 2013;
referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure;
and then to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-15-42 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to television receivers and other devices installed in vehicles; restrictions; conditions for use; and inapplicability of section to specific devices.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §17C-15-42 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15. EQUIPMENT.

§17C-15-42. Television receivers in view of driver prohibited.

1 (a) No motor vehicle shall may be operated on any a
2 street or highway in this state when equipped with a
3 television receiver unless ~~such receiver is so placed that the~~
4 ~~screen or picture tube of such receiver is visible only in the~~
5 ~~rear seat of such motor vehicle and not in view of the~~
6 ~~operator of such motor vehicle.~~ the receiver is configured so
7 that the moving images are not in view of the operator while
8 the vehicle is in motion.

9 (b) This section does not apply to the following
10 equipment installed in a vehicle:

11 (1) A visual display if it does not show video or
12 television broadcast images in view of the operator while the
13 motor vehicle is in motion;

14 (2) A global positioning device;

15 (3) A mapping display;

16 (4) A visual display used to enhance or supplement the
17 driver's view forward, behind or to the sides of a motor
18 vehicle for the purpose of maneuvering the vehicle;

- 19 (5) A visual display used to enhance or supplement a
20 driver's view of vehicle occupants;
- 21 (6) Television-type receiving equipment used exclusively
22 for safety or traffic engineering information; or
- 23 (7) A television receiver, video monitor, television or
24 video screen for other similar means of visually displaying a
25 television broadcast or video signal if the equipment has an
26 interlock device that, when the motor vehicle is driven,
27 disables the equipment for all uses except as a visual display
28 described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of this subsection.

(NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to establish conditions for use of television receivers in vehicles and to except specific devices from application of the section.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.)