Georgia’s ‘hands-free’ driving law went into effect on July 1, 2018, the result of legislation (H.B. 673) that was introduced by Rep. John Carson (R-Marietta). The Medical Association of Georgia, the MAG Foundation, the Medical Association of Atlanta, and the MAG Alliance were leading advocates for H.B. 673 – as well as funding a public information campaign to encourage Georgians to refrain from using their handheld devices while they are driving.

Georgia drivers cannot...

- Physically hold or support a wireless telecommunications device (e.g., a mobile phone) or a stand-alone electronic device (e.g., an iPad, iPod or Kindle) with any part of their body. Exceptions include earpieces, headphones, or telecommunications devices that are worn on the wrist (e.g., a smart watch).

- Write, send or read any text-based communication (e.g., instant message, e-mail or internet data).

- Watch a video or movie on a wireless telecommunications device or a stand-alone electronic device.

- Record or broadcast a video on a wireless or stand-alone electronic device, although this does not apply to devices that are used for the sole purpose of continuously recording or broadcasting video within or outside the motor vehicle (e.g., dash cams).

Georgia drivers can...

- Use their phone for voice communications on a hands-free basis.

- Touch their phone to dial a number or receive or end a call as long as the driver isn’t holding or supporting the phone.

- Use their phone for GPS navigation apps.

- Use voice-to-text technology.

Georgia’s hands-free law includes an escalating schedule of fines and “points” for multiple violations.

Contact Bethany Sherrer at bsherrer@mag.org for more information on Georgia’s hands-free law.

Click here for additional information/resources on Georgia’s hands-free law

With more than 8,000 members, MAG is the leading voice for physicians in Georgia. MAG represents physicians in every specialty and practice setting. Go to www.mag.org for details. Updated July 15, 2019.