

State Progress on Distracted Driving

- Since January, 12 states have enacted text messaging bans
- GHSA expects that nearly all states will ban text messaging in the next two years
 - NHTSA model law
 - FY 2011 appropriations earmark for texting bans
- At least 27 states have included distracted driving as a priority emphasis area in their Strategic Highway Safety Plans
- As states updates those plans, more can be expected to add distraction as an key emphasis area



State Distracted Driving Data Collection

- 43 states collect data on distraction – up from 17 in 2003
- Of those, 34 states collect data that is consistent with the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) Guideline
- The distraction data element will be updated and expanded next year, final publication in 2012



Driver Education and Licensing

- 23 states have driver education materials on teen driver distraction
- 32 states have sections in their drivers manual on distraction and another 21 discuss the dangers of at least one type of distraction
- 17 states and DC have at least one question on the driver license exam on distraction



Education, Employer Programs

- 41 states are addressing distraction through public education efforts including social media
- 35 states working with other state agencies or private entities to address distraction
- 16 states are working with employers on distraction issues



State Examples

- In the upcoming year, CA expects to spend \$2.7 million in Section 402 funding for a multi-prong DD effort
- MN is partnering with the Governor's office to have a "Distraction Free Driving Day" with increased enforcement, advertising
- In NJ, approx. 10,000 tickets written each month for hand-held cell phone and texting violations
- In MI, an "Thumbs on the Wheel" Campaign was launched
- Other states will roll out campaigns when their new texting/cell phone laws take effect



Bottom Line

- A lot of activity at the state level
- More states can be expected to enact legislation
- Much more research is needed to determine whether any of these countermeasures reduce distraction or have an impact on crashes, fatalities and injuries

