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(S.D.)-Police Chief Wants State Ban On Distracted Driving



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 11/08/2013 04:02 PM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - Rapid City Police Chief Steve Allender says he wants the South Dakota Legislature to pass a state law banning all kinds of distracted driving, including texting while behind the wheel.

The Legislature this year passed a law prohibiting drivers younger than 16 from using cell phones while driving, but lawmakers have refused to pass a law banning all drivers from texting.

Allender hopes the 2014 Legislature will pass a bill that makes it illegal to text or do anything distracting behind the wheel. He says he's seen young people eating a bowl of cereal on the way to school, steering with their knees as they use both hands to eat.

Sen. Craig Tieszen of Rapid City says citizens want something done to counter distracted driving.