



GREENWAYS Jamboree

MONDAY JUNE 10TH
4-8 PM

WAYNE A. GRUBE MEMORIAL COUNTY PARK
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We Crossed the Finish Line – A Historic Victory for Roadway Safety

Senator Rosemary Brown

HARRISBURG - Finally! After more than a decade of dedicated work, my legislation, Senate Bill 37 was signed into law – marking a new era of safer driving practices across Pennsylvania.

As this bill is now signed into law, I am filled with gratitude for those who helped me along this process, and I know this measure will protect drivers, prevent crashes, and save lives. This bill is more than legislation – it is a reminder of the power of perseverance and the impact we can have when we prioritize public safety.

Named the Paul Miller Jr. Law, Senate Bill 37 – now Act 18 of 2024 – limits the use of handheld cellphones or other communication devices while operating a motor vehicle on Pennsylvania highways. Drivers can still use their phones if utilizing hands-free technology such as a docking station, Bluetooth, or speaker technology.

This achievement would not have been possible without the unwavering advocacy of Paul and Eileen Miller, who have been with me every step of the way. Their son, Paul Miller Jr, lost his life to a distracted driver on Route 33 in Monroe County. Their tireless efforts have ensured that his legacy will protect countless others.

In 2023, there were more than 11,000 crashes in Pennsylvania involving a distracted driver, out pacing DUI crashes. In 2022, distracted driving fatalities in Pennsylvania surged to a decade high, claiming 80 lives. Pennsylvania now joins 26 other states with hands-free laws, including all its border states, which have reported declines in distracted driving incidents following the implementation of such laws.

This was a long battle to put the safety of Pennsylvanians first, but it is a battle worth winning. With Governor Shapiro's signature, we have crossed the finish line. I look forward to seeing the positive impact this law will have on our communities.