

Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature
2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2025)

Senate Bill No. OBU-001

Dent (OBU)

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to crossing the street ~~while using a handheld device~~; providing short title; providing for definitions; providing for codification; providing for penalties; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Section 1. This act shall be known as the “Eyes Up” Act of 2025.

Section 2. DEFINITIONS The following terms are to be defined as follows for the purposes of this act:

1. Handheld Device – Any mobile phone, tablet, or similar electronic device used for communication, entertainment, or other functions, including but not limited to texting, calling, browsing, or watching videos.
2. Crossing the Street – Walking across a public roadway at a designated crosswalk or intersection.
3. Active Use – Engaging with a handheld device in a manner that distracts from situational awareness, including texting, browsing, or making calls.
4. Situational Awareness – The ability to observe and respond to one’s surroundings, including traffic and pedestrians, while crossing the street.
5. Emergency Responders – Law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and other individuals engaged in emergency duties.

Section 3. NEW LAW A new law to be codified into the Oklahoma statutes to read as follows:

1. It shall be unlawful for any individual to engage in active use of a handheld device while crossing the street.
2. Exceptions:
 - a. Listening to music or other audio with headphones or earbuds is permitted, provided it does not impede situational awareness.
 - b. This law does not apply to emergency responders acting within the scope of their duties.

- c. This law does not apply to a child being carried or secured in a stroller. However, if a child is actively walking, they must refrain from using a handheld device while crossing the street.

Section 4. PENALTIES

- 1. Any individual found in violation of Section 3.1 by local law enforcement shall face a fine not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50).
- 2. Minors' Violations:
 - a. For the first violation, an individual under the age of sixteen (16) shall receive a verbal or written warning.
 - b. After the second violation, the parent or guardian of an individual under the age of sixteen (16) will be contacted and billed for a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) per occurrence.
 - c. If the individual is sixteen (16) years of age or older, they will be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for the second and subsequent violations.
- 3. Stroller Exception:
 - a. If a minor is carried or secured in a stroller, no fine will be issued to the minor. However, the parent or guardian present will be responsible for paying any fines related to violations.

Section 5. This act shall become effective ninety (90) days after passage and approval.

AMENDMENTS

- 1. Amending short title, strike “while using a handheld device”. **Author:** Robinson **PASSED IN COMMITTEE**
- 2. Amending Page 1, Section 2, Sub-Section 1, Line 2, add “or similar non-electronic devices” after device. **Author:** Harcrow **FAILED IN SENATE**