

S.309 – Distracted driving diversion program study

Sec. __. **DISTRACTED DRIVING DIVERSION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS;
REPORT**

(a) The Community Justice Unit of the Office of the Attorney General, in consultation with the Court Diversion programs, the Vermont Judiciary, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and representatives of Vermont law enforcement agencies, shall evaluate the feasibility of and design options for establishing a distracted driving diversion program as an alternative to civil penalties and points for individuals who violate Vermont’s distracted driving laws, including 23 V.S.A. §§ 1095a, 1095b, and 1099. The issues for the Community Justice Unit to consider shall include:

- (1) whether conducting a distracted driving diversion program is feasible;
- (2) if so, how such a distracted driving diversion program should be structured and administered;
- (3) the age groups to which the program should be made available;
- (4) performance outcome measures that indicate whether the program is reducing the participants’ likelihood of future distracted driving;
- (5) whether fees should be imposed for participation in the program and, if so, what those fees should be;
- (6) the additional resources, if any, that would be needed to implement and administer the program; and
- (7) whether diversion or other alternatives should be made available to address other driving-related violations, especially youth violations.

(b) On or before December 15, 2024, the Community Justice Unit shall submit its findings and recommendations regarding a distracted driving diversion program to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation and on Judiciary.