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# Press Release

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## ***State Senator Jim Ferlo to visit Riverview Jr/Sr High School***

**State Senator Jim Ferlo (D-Highland Park)** will visit RIVERVIEW JUNIOR/SENIOR High School students on Thursday, Sept. 19 to emphasize the dangers of texting and driving and encourage students to pledge that "It Can Wait."

Sen. Ferlo has made distracted driving a priority during his term. As early as 2009, Sen. Ferlo introduced a bill that would prohibit texting and driving and require drivers to utilize a hands-free system for any use of cellular phones while operating a vehicle.

"I believe that the dangers posed to public safety and the accidents threatening the lives of our citizens necessitate action," Sen. Ferlo notes on his website "Ferlo's Soapbox."

"My legislation would ban texting and hand-held cellular usage while driving except in the case of an emergency, and I will continue to advocate for this end."

Sen. Ferlo collaborated with AT&T to bring a documentary detailing the dangers of texting and driving to students on the Drive 4 Pledges Day as part of the "It Can Wait" Campaign. The campaign aims to curb texting and driving by sharing tragedies that could have been prevented by simply ignoring text messages or refusing to text while on the road. The goal is to make texting and driving as unacceptable as drinking and driving.

Individuals can now sign up at [ItCanWait.com](http://ItCanWait.com) to get resources that will help them share their commitment on social media and personalize the movement on the streets of their communities on key activation days. Aspiring to create a social stigma around this dangerous habit of texting while driving, Drive 4 Pledges Day will focus on getting individuals involved in taking the [pledge to never text and drive](#) while encouraging others in their community to do the same. These individuals will join AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile US, Inc., Verizon and more than 200 other organizations by sharing their commitment not to text and drive while increasing awareness of the dangers.

Please contact RIVERVIEW JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL if you would like to report about this motivating assembly that could potentially save students.