

By Senator Dawson

29-931-03

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to leaving children unattended
3 or unsupervised in a motor vehicle; amending s.
4 316.6135, F.S.; revising the elements of the
5 noncriminal infraction to prohibit leaving a
6 child younger than a specified age unattended
7 or unsupervised in a motor vehicle for any
8 period of time; increasing a penalty and
9 providing additional penalties; providing an
10 effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
15 316.6135, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 316.6135 Leaving children unattended or unsupervised
17 in motor vehicle; penalty; authority of law enforcement
18 officer.--

19 (1) A ~~No~~ parent, legal guardian, or other person at
20 least 12 years of age who is responsible for a child younger
21 than 8 ~~6~~ years of age may not ~~shall~~ leave such child
22 unattended or unsupervised in a motor vehicle for any period
23 of time ~~a period in excess of 15 minutes; however, no such~~
24 ~~person shall leave a child unattended for any period of time~~
25 ~~if the motor of the vehicle is running or the health of the~~
26 ~~child is in danger.~~

27 (2) Any person who violates ~~the provisions of~~
28 subsection (1) commits ~~is guilty of~~ a noncriminal traffic
29 infraction, punishable by a fine of:

30 (a) Not more than \$200 ~~\$100~~; ~~or~~

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1 (b) Not less than \$50 and not more than \$500 if the
2 motor of the vehicle was running or the health of the child
3 was in danger at the time of the violation; or.

4 (c) Not less than \$500 for a second or subsequent
5 violation if the motor of the vehicle was running or the
6 health of the child was in danger at the time of the
7 violation.

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9 This subsection does not preclude prosecution under any other
10 provision of law.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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14 SENATE SUMMARY

15 Provides that a person 12 years of age or older who is
16 responsible for children may not leave them unattended or
17 unsupervised in a motor vehicle for any period of time.
Provides additional and increased penalties for such a
violation.

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