

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to animals confined in unattended  
 3           motor vehicles; providing a short title; creating s.  
 4           828.075, F.S.; prohibiting a person from confining an  
 5           animal in an unattended motor vehicle under certain  
 6           circumstances; providing a criminal penalty; providing  
 7           an exception for the transportation of certain animals  
 8           under certain conditions; providing an effective date.

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

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 12           Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Protecting Animal  
 13 Welfare and Safety Act" or "P.A.W.S. Act."

14           Section 2. Section 828.075, Florida Statutes, is created  
 15 to read:

16           828.075 Animals confined in unattended motor vehicles.—

17           (1) A person who intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly  
 18 confines an animal in an unattended motor vehicle under  
 19 conditions that endanger the health or well-being of the animal  
 20 due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, lack of food or  
 21 water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected  
 22 to cause suffering, physical injury, or death of the animal  
 23 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as  
 24 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

25           (2) This section does not prohibit the transportation of  
 26 the following animals in motor vehicles designed to transport

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27 | such animals for agricultural, sporting, or working purposes:

28 |       (a) Horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, poultry, or other  
29 | agricultural animals.

30 |       (b) Hunting, working, sporting, or conformation show dogs.

31 | Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.