

By Senator Thurston

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to motor vehicle theft; amending s.
3 316.1975, F.S.; providing criminal penalties if a
4 vehicle's ignition is not locked in a proper manner
5 and the vehicle is stolen by a minor; providing an
6 effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Section 316.1975, Florida Statutes, is amended
11 to read:

12 316.1975 Unattended motor vehicle.—

13 (1) A person driving or in charge of any motor vehicle may
14 not permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the
15 engine, locking the ignition, and removing the key. A vehicle
16 may not be permitted to stand unattended upon any perceptible
17 grade without stopping the engine and effectively setting the
18 brake thereon and turning the front wheels to the curb or side
19 of the street. Except as provided in subsection (3), a violation
20 of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable
21 as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

22 (2) This section does not apply to the operator of:

23 (a) An authorized emergency vehicle while in the
24 performance of official duties and the vehicle is equipped with
25 an activated antitheft device that prohibits the vehicle from
26 being driven;

27 (b) A licensed delivery truck or other delivery vehicle
28 while making deliveries;

29 (c) A solid waste or recovered materials collection vehicle

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30 while collecting such items; or

31 (d) A vehicle that is started by remote control while the
32 ignition, transmission, and doors are locked.

33 (3) It is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as
34 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if a person violates
35 subsection (1) by failing to lock the ignition of a motor
36 vehicle in the required manner and, as a result thereof, a minor
37 commits the offense of theft of the motor vehicle.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2018.