

2021 -- S 0128

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LC000447  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CHILDREN--CONFINEMENT IN MOTOR  
VEHICLES PROHIBITED

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, Lombardi, Coyne, Euer, Rogers, Paolino, Felag, and  
Archambault

Date Introduced: January 26, 2021

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-22-22.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-22 entitled  
2 "Miscellaneous Rules" is hereby repealed.

3 ~~**31-22-22.1. Child passenger protection -- Warnings of hazard and risk.**~~

4 ~~(a) All law enforcement officers in this state are authorized to provide a verbal warning to~~  
5 ~~any person who shall be deemed to have left a child under the age of seven (7) unattended in a~~  
6 ~~motor vehicle. The warning shall apprise the offending person of the dangers of this practice~~  
7 ~~including, but not limited to, the risk of kidnapping and/or abduction, and the dangers which may~~  
8 ~~result from the accumulation of excessive temperatures within the motor vehicle.~~

9 ~~(b) No fine or sanction shall be imposed for a violation of this section, other than a verbal~~  
10 ~~warning, and no record of any kind shall be maintained of the warning.~~

11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CHILDREN--CONFINEMENT IN MOTOR  
VEHICLES PROHIBITED

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- 1           This act would repeal the requirement that law enforcement officers issue only warnings
- 2 of the risks to persons leaving a child under the age of seven (7) unattended in a motor vehicle.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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