

2016 -- H 7090

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LC003573  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Introduced By: Representative Patricia A. Serpa

Date Introduced: January 08, 2016

Referred To: House 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2 "Miscellaneous Rules" is hereby repealed.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.** -- (a) All law~~  
4 ~~enforcement officers in this state are authorized to provide a verbal warning to any person who~~  
5 ~~shall be deemed to have left a child under the age of seven (7) unattended in a motor vehicle. The~~  
6 ~~warning shall apprise the offending person of the dangers of this practice including, but not~~  
7 ~~limited to, the risk of kidnapping and/or abduction, and the dangers which may result from the~~  
8 ~~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~~  
10 ~~verbal warning, and no record of any kind shall be maintained of the warning.~~

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 31-22 of the General Laws entitled "Miscellaneous Rules" is  
12 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

13 **31-22-22.2. Child passenger protection.** -- (a) It shall be a violation for any person in  
14 control of a motor vehicle to leave a child under the age of seven (7) unattended in a motor  
15 vehicle.

16 (b) Any person charge with a violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be fined not  
17 more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), and may have his or her license to operate a motor  
18 vehicle suspended for not more than three (3) years.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would make it an offense to leave a child under seven (7) years of age  
2 unattended in a motor vehicle, punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000), and  
3 possible suspension of license not to exceed three (3) years.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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