



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 110

H.P. 78

House of Representatives, January 9, 2023

**An Act to Prohibit Leaving a Child Under 10 Years of Age Alone in
a Motor Vehicle**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: MEYER of Eliot, STOVER of Boothbay.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2122** is enacted to read:

3 **§2122. Unattended child in a motor vehicle**

4 **1. Prohibition.** A person who is a parent, guardian or other person legally charged
5 with the care or custody of a minor who has not attained 10 years of age may not
6 intentionally, knowingly or recklessly leave the minor unattended inside a motor vehicle
7 under conditions that present a substantial health or safety risk to the minor.

8 **2. Penalties.** A violation of this section is a traffic infraction for which a fine of not
9 more than \$50 for the first offense, not more than \$100 for the 2nd offense and not more
10 than \$250 for the 3rd and subsequent offenses may be adjudged.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill prohibits a parent, guardian or other person legally charged with the care or
13 custody of a minor who has not attained 10 years of age from intentionally, knowingly or
14 recklessly leaving that minor in a motor vehicle under conditions that present a substantial
15 health or safety risk to the minor. Violating this law is a traffic infraction for which a fine
16 of not more than \$50 for the first offense, not more than \$100 for the 2nd offense and not
17 more than \$250 for the 3rd and subsequent offenses may be adjudged.