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.

Presented by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MEYER of Eliot, STOVER of Boothbay.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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

§2122. Unattended child in a motor vehicle

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

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

SUMMARY

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