

April 17, 2007

H 1562. UNATTENDED CHILDREN IN VEHICLES. Filed 4/17/07. *TO MAKE LEAVING AN UNATTENDED CHILD IN A MOTOR VEHICLE UNLAWFUL.*

Enacts new GS 20-175.7 making it a Class 2 misdemeanor for a person responsible for a child 8 years old or younger to leave the child in a motor vehicle without being supervised by a person who is at least 14 years old if: (1) the conditions within or in the immediate vicinity of the motor vehicle present a risk to the child's health or safety, or (2) the engine of the motor vehicle is running or the keys to the motor vehicle are in the passenger compartment of the vehicle. Provides that a second or subsequent offense is a Class 1 misdemeanor. Permits a court in lieu of any other penalty to require a person convicted of a violation to complete a community education program that includes instruction on the dangers of leaving young children unattended in motor vehicles. Requires the Administrative Office of the Courts by December 1, 2007, to compile a list of community education programs. Effective December 1, 2007, and applicable to offenses committed on or after that date.

Intro. by Underhill.

GS 20

May 17, 2007

H 1562. UNATTENDED CHILDREN IN VEHICLES. Filed 4/17/07. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Recodifies proposed new GS 20-175.7 as new GS 14-318.5 and makes the following changes: (1) makes it unlawful to leave a child in a vehicle on any public street or in any public vehicular area (was, in a vehicle); (2) defines *motor vehicle*, *street*, and *public vehicular area*, (3) adds the requirement that a reasonable person would believe that the conditions within or in the immediate vicinity of the vehicle present a risk to the child's health or safety; and (4) changes the penalties for violations to a warning citation for a first offense (was, a Class 2 misdemeanor), and a Class 2 misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense (was, a Class 1 misdemeanor). Makes technical and conforming changes.

May 21, 2007

H 1562. UNATTENDED CHILDREN IN VEHICLES. Filed 4/17/07. House amendment makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Modifies proposed GS 14-318.5(a) to add the requirement that the child also be out of the immediate proximity or the line of sight of the parent, legal guardian, or other person responsible for the child before a person is prohibited from leaving a child in a motor vehicle without supervision when the vehicle's engine is running, or the keys to the vehicle are anywhere in the vehicle's passenger compartment.