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H.357

Introduced by Representative Burditt of West Rutland

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes; cruelty to children and to persons under care of another

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to make it a crime for a person to leave a child or another person under the first person's care or custody unattended in a motor vehicle.

An act relating to leaving a child or person under care of another unattended in a motor vehicle

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 1304 is amended to read:

§ 1304. CRUELTY TO CHILDREN UNDER 10 BY ONE OVER 16

(a) A person over ~~the age of~~ 16 years of age, having the custody, charge, or care of a child under 10 years of age, who ~~willfully~~ willfully assaults, ill treats, neglects, or abandons or exposes such child, or causes or procures such child to be assaulted, ill-treated, neglected, abandoned, or exposed, in a manner to cause such child unnecessary suffering, or to endanger his or her health, shall be imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than \$500.00, or both.

1 (b) It shall be a violation of this section if the person over 16 years of age
2 leaves the child unattended in a motor vehicle.

3 Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 1305 is amended to read:

4 § 1305. CRUELTY BY PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF ANOTHER

5 (a) A person having the custody, charge, care, or control of another person,
6 who inflicts unnecessary cruelty upon such person, or unnecessarily and
7 cruelly fails to provide such person with proper food, drink, shelter, or
8 protection from the weather, or unnecessarily and cruelly neglects to properly
9 care for such person, shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not
10 more than \$200.00, or both.

11 (b) It shall be a violation of this section if the person having custody,
12 charge, care, or control of the other person leaves the other person unattended
13 in a motor vehicle.

14 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.