
SENATE BILL 5237

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Senators Muzzall, Lovick, and Krishnadasan

Read first time 01/14/25. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to leaving a child unattended in a vehicle;
2 amending RCW 9.91.060; prescribing penalties; and making an
3 appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.91.060 and 1999 c 143 s 9 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) Every person having the care and custody, whether temporary
8 or permanent, of minor children under the age of ((twelve)) 12 years,
9 who shall leave such children in a parked automobile unattended by an
10 adult while such person enters a tavern or other premises where
11 vinous, spirituous, or malt liquors are dispensed for consumption on
12 the premises shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

13 (2) A person who has the care and custody, whether temporary or
14 permanent, of a minor child under the age of nine years, and
15 knowingly leaves the child unattended by an adult in a parked
16 automobile, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of \$100,000, or as much thereof as
18 may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30,
19 2026, from the general fund to the department of health, for the

1 purposes of promoting awareness of this act and the dangers inherent
2 in leaving young children unattended in a vehicle.

--- **END** ---